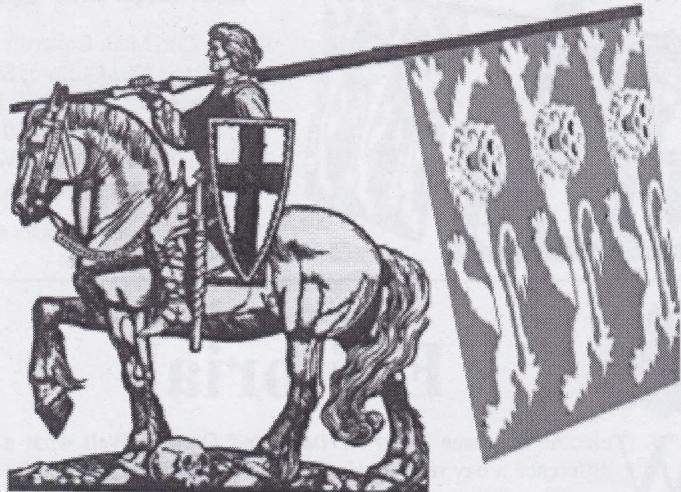


Heritage and Destiny



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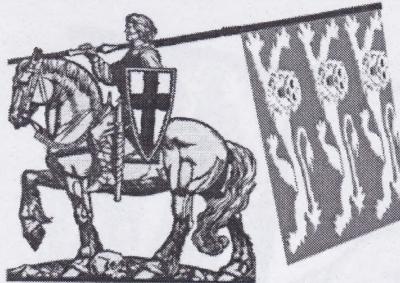
Stand Men of the West - Today is the day we fight!

July-September 2006

Heritage and Destiny editor wins election



Mark Cotterill (right) won Meadowhead ward in Blackburn on May 4th with a landslide majority of 274 (44%). Local BNP activists including former branch organiser John Murphy (left) agreed not to split the nationalist vote in Blackburn by standing in different wards. John won 20% of the vote for the BNP in Livesey and Pleasington ward - one of Blackburn's safest Conservative seats - partly due to the help he received from Mark Cotterill and other EFP members (see page 7-8).



Editor: Cllr. Mark Cotterill; Assistant Editors: Martin Kerr and Peter Rushmore

Webmaster: Carl Clifford; Sales Manager: Anne Wright

UK address: P.O. Box 331, Blackburn, BB1 2WU, Great Britain.

U.S. address: P. O. Box 6501, Falls Church, Virginia 22046, USA.

Tel: (44) 07833 677484; Website: www.efp.org.uk

ISSN 1741-8941: Electronic Mail: heritageanddestiny@yahoo.com

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Editorial

Welcome to Issue 25 of *Heritage and Destiny*. Well what a difference a day really makes, as the old saying goes. On the morning of Thursday May 4th, I woke up thinking - hoping, that Nationalists would do well in the local elections. By midnight I realized that all my wildest expectations had been passed. The BNP won another thirty odd seats taking their tally to over fifty, but much more important to me was that I won as well as my England First Party colleague Michael Johnson.

In my local ward of Meadowhead I won by a landslide of almost 300 votes, taking the seat from New Labour. In Fernhurst ward Michael Johnson won the seat off the Conservatives with a majority of forty five - after a recount!

Peter Rushmore goes into great detail covering the election on pages 3 - 9 (7 pages in total - so I'm sorry that Martin Kerr's part VII of his Rockwell article has been put back to our next issue), so I won't take up much more space on with election facts and figures, as Peter does it much better anyway!

However, I would like to take this opportunity here to thank all H&D readers who helped with our election campaign in Blackburn with Darwen. Whether you helped us physically by delivering leaflets and or canvassing or financially with a donation, it all counts and without your help and support we would not have won.

When I walked into my local pub the day after the election, it really sunk in that I had won. There was a massive cheer and everybody wanted to shake hands and congratulate me. The landlord put a CD of Jerusalem on and everyone joined in. We are well and truly back!

Of course there are a few so-called Nationalists who were not very happy with our victories. BNP leader Nick Griffin described Michael and myself as "Blackburn's two Nazi Councillors"! Former NF leader Martin Webster - who some in the Nationalist movement regard as a state agent - was another to attack us (as well as the BNP's success) through his e-mail bulletin. It should be remembered that during the fifteen odd years that Webster ran the

NF they did not even win one Parish council seat! Let alone get any City or Borough councilors elected. His record was one of pathetic failure.

Another of the movements odd-balls is Gareth Hurley, a geeky little guy who runs a two men and a very small dog group called the International Third Position. He was quick to join Webster and Griffin in attacking us. Hurley, who hides behind a BCM box, ran around telling anybody daft enough to listen that we stole his name - England First - and had no right to use it. We hear that he even reported us to Cardiff Police for 'stealing his name'. What most Nationalists can't understand is why Hurley would want a group called England First when he is of Welsh/Jewish origins himself?

I must admit that the six week election campaign took it out of me and so

I had a very welcome break in Italy with a lady friend the week after. It was my first visit to Italy, but hopefully not my last. Apart from visiting the beautiful cities of Rimini, Florence and Venice we took time off sightseeing to meet a number of Italian nationalists, who themselves had just come through a very hard fought election.

The Italian right-wing coalition lost the election by a very narrow margin, but are still miles in front of us electorally. The nationalists we met from the Lega Nord (League of the North Party) - led by Umberto Bossi - were very friendly and keen to hear about our recent election success in England. Their party is very professional and well run and I think we both learned a great deal from meeting and talking to one another. Later this year we hope to have a member of Lega Nord over to speak at a meeting in England - to which all H&D subscribers will be invited.

As always please send us your letters, press cuttings, photos, artwork and most importantly your quality articles and reviews (book, movie, CD and DVD reviews are most welcome). We also welcome any comments, suggestions or criticisms you might have.

If you are a member of a nationalist party, why not buy some extra copies of this issue to give out (or sell them!) at your next branch meeting. We still need your regular donations - however large or small, every Dollar, Pound or even Euro counts. Please try and send in whatever you can afford. Thanks once again for your support, together we will win.



The editor in Rimini with an election poster for right-wing coalition candidate Alberto Bucci, former coach of the Bologna football team, who came a close second

Heritage and Destiny

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Big gains for Nationalists in Council Elections

Racial nationalists celebrated sensational victories in several areas of England at the 2006 local elections. By far the best results were in the London borough of Barking and Dagenham, where the British National Party gained eleven seats and is now the official opposition to Labour, and the east Lancashire borough of Blackburn with Darwen, where two councillors (including H&D's editor) were elected for the new England First Party. It remains to be seen whether these results represent a turning point in British politics or another false dawn.

Most media attention during the campaign was on **Barking and Dagenham**, where New Labour minister Margaret Hodge (a millionaire born Margaret Oppenheimer) accurately predicted that the BNP was about to make a breakthrough. Speaking to the *Sunday Telegraph* on April 16th, just over two weeks before polling day, Mrs Hodge described the radicalisation of her constituents:

They can't get a home for their children, they see black and ethnic minority communities moving in and they are angry. When I knock on doors I say to people, 'are you tempted to vote BNP?' and many, many, many - eight out of 10 of the white families - say 'yes'. That's something we have never seen before, in all my years. Even when people voted BNP, they used to be ashamed to vote BNP. Now they are not.

Mrs Hodge was remarkably honest about the racial transformation of her area and the white reaction:

What has happened in Barking and Dagenham is the most rapid transformation of a community we have ever witnessed. Nowhere else has changed so fast. When I arrived in 1994, it was a predominantly white, working class area. Now, go through the middle of Barking and you could be in Camden or Brixton. That is the key thing that has created the environment the BNP has sought to exploit.

Although herself a loyal Blairite minister, Mrs Hodge slammed her party's failure to respond to white working class grievances:

The Labour Party hasn't talked to these people. This is a traditional Labour area but they are not used to engaging with us because all we do is put leaflets through doors. Part of the reason they switch to the BNP is they feel no one else is listening to them. What we haven't significantly addressed are these issues that are the quality of life on council estates. It is the poorest whites who feel the greatest anger because there is no way out for them.

Barking and Dagenham is not virgin territory for racial nationalists. More than a decade ago on June 9th 1994 the late John Tyndall won 7% of the vote at a parliamentary by-election in Dagenham, the BNP's first ever saved deposit. In the same constituency the BNP nearly saved another deposit at the 2001 general election, gaining a fraction short of 5%, while next door Barking saw the party's fourth best result at that election - 6.4%.

In September 2004 Dan Kelley won the Goresbrook by-election to take the first ever BNP seat on Barking and Dagenham council and at the 2005 general election Barking and Dagenham became the BNP's main target area, following the collapse of the party's old strongholds in North West England. In Barking, standing against Blairite minister Margaret Hodge, Richard Barnbrook achieved the BNP's best ever general election result with 4,916 votes (16.9%), almost snatching second place from the Tories despite a desperate smear campaign in the London press which revealed that Mr Barnbrook once produced and starred in a film with explicit homosexual themes. Meanwhile in

Dagenham the BNP's controversial Turkish candidate Lawrence Rustom gained 2,870 votes (9.3%).

The 2005 results were very good, but fell short of the pre-election hype which had suggested that Mr Barnbrook might come a close second. The local party suffered a serious setback soon after the general election when its single councillor resigned, having discovered that he wasn't up to the job, and Labour easily won the consequent by-election.

The BNP's recovery from this setback is greatly to the credit of Richard Barnbrook and other local organisers. Less than a year after a demoralising failure in Goresbrook the party scored not just one but eleven stunning victories. As many readers will know, London boroughs elect their entire council once every four years, with almost all wards having three councillors. Six of the BNP's successful candidates topped the poll in their respective wards. These victories were not tactical flukes. They were not based on a lucky split in the opposition vote but on a genuine, deep rooted swing towards racial nationalism among the voters of Barking and Dagenham.

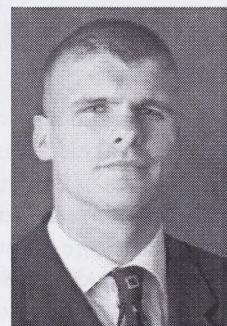
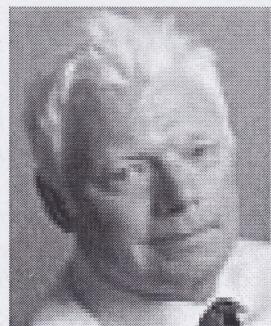
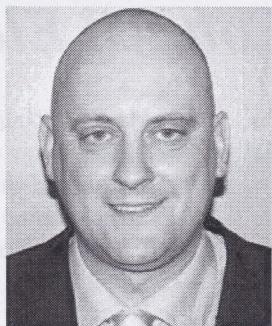
The challenge now is to live up to voters' expectations. Partly because of internal divisions the BNP failed to do this in Burnley after its 2002 breakthrough, and it has paid the price. National elections officer Eddy Butler addresses this problem in a candid article for the June 2006 issue of the BNP magazine *Identity*:



Barking & Dagenham BNP organiser Richard Barnbrook led the most successful British nationalist election campaign ever

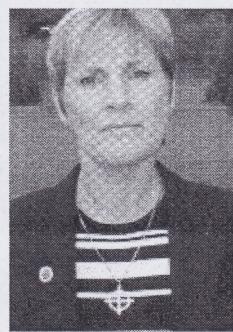


Nick Griffin launches the BNP's local government campaign at a press conference flanked by three prominent female activists: Cllr Patricia Richardson, Thurrock candidate Emma Colgate, and national nominating officer Sadie Graham



BNP winners at this year's local elections: (above left to right) Bradford BNP organiser Paul Cromie, finally victorious in Queensbury ward; former schoolteacher Simon Smith, winner in Sandwell with the highest racial nationalist vote of the election; Albert Walker, winner in Stoke with only 24.9% thanks to a split Labour vote; Chris Beverley, the first BNP councillor on Leeds City Council; Susan Clapp, one of three BNP winners in Epping Forest, where the party now has six councillors;

And the losers (below left to right) Sharif Abdel Gawad, bizarrely selected as a Bradford BNP candidate, beaten into last place in Bowling and Barkerend ward; Dave and Bev Jones, whose Tameside branch, like the rest of Greater Manchester, is failing to find a credible target ward; Anita Corbett, tipped to make a strong challenge in Royton, who slipped into third place; Ken Booth, election strategist for the North East BNP, with a 100% failure rate since leaving the National Front to ally with his former rivals Kevin Scott and Nick Griffin; David Shapcott, Burnley BNP organiser, who was badly beaten in Whittlefield with Iglenhill ward and had to watch his brother Ken and predecessor Steven Smith form part of the successful EFP team which won two seats in Blackburn with Darwen



We must ensure that maximum effort is put into providing support for our councillors and none should be sidetracked to other duties. That would be fatal. The key area for this is our large group in Barking and Dagenham, where the very success itself will create unfamiliar management problems that will require regular work. Poor councillors or those not doing their job properly are fatal and must not be allowed to happen. In the past lip service has been paid to this problem. It is our absolute duty as a party to address this issue with the utmost seriousness now. Regular regional councillor meetings are essential, with the leading regional officials, to knit them into the party, to give support to lone councillors and to ensure that larger blocks do not go off on their own.

In the same article Mr Butler admits that unprecedented levels of press coverage (notably the Margaret Hodge interview quoted above) made a huge contribution to BNP success in Barking and Dagenham, and that the party's only two other victories in London were partly due to their proximity to the main target borough. Alan Bailey (the latest member of a well known family in London nationalist politics) won the Gooshays ward in **Havering**, while Julian Leppert won the Hainault ward in **Redbridge**. Neither ward had been regarded as a major regional target.

Realistically the London BNP's hopes were focused on several councils just outside the metropolitan area. The only victories were achieved in **Epping Forest**, where the party's strength was doubled with three additional councillors in the Loughton wards Alderton, Broadway and Fairmead. Some target areas achieved respectable results but no victories. In the Rosedale ward of **Broxbourne** the BNP's Stephen McCall was fifty votes behind the winning

Conservative despite gaining 41.6%, one of the best BNP shares of the vote nationwide. This was one of the BNP's early election gains back in 2003 and Cllr Ray Johns will defend his seat in this ward next year, but Eddy Butler admits that the party "didn't have the manpower" to fulfil its campaign strategy.

Similarly in the West Thurrock & South Stifford ward of **Thurrock** borough council Michael White polled 36.6% - just sixteen votes behind Labour, with the Tories hanging on to a strong third place. Eddy Butler complains that despite its target status "the campaign was conducted with tiny numbers of activists". Elsewhere in Thurrock former councillor Nick Geri was second in Tilbury St Chads ward, though 242 votes behind Labour, and John Cotter was similarly runner-up to Labour in Belhus ward, beaten by 202 votes. Local organiser Emma Colgate finished a distant third in Grays Riverside, the ward which the BNP briefly held after a by-election in September 2003. In the Fryerns ward of **Basildon** council, Leonard Heather won a creditable 25.3% but was 531 votes behind Labour.

Back in London the 1990s BNP strongholds of Tower Hamlets and Newham have now been submerged by the tide of Asian and African immigration. In **Newham** there were no BNP candidates at all, while in **Tower Hamlets** just one ward - Mile End & Globe - was contested, with veteran Mosleyite Tom Callow heading the BNP slate. In **Bexley**'s North End ward, where the BNP took 26% at a by-election in July 2000, the party finished next to bottom of the poll this year.

Outside the environs of the capital the greatest BNP success was in the West Midlands. Former teacher Simon Smith won the Great Bridge ward in **Sandwell** with this year's best racial nationalist vote - 45.1%. Boosted by the last minute withdrawal of an independent candidate and the absence of the Tories, Mr Smith had a 182 majority



The Birmingham BNP election team led by Sharon Ebanks (centre) and Keith Axon (left) celebrate Sharon's victory in Kingstanding ward, later overturned by the High Court

over Labour. Russell Green won a hard fought campaign to join James Lloyd as the second BNP councillor for Princes End ward with 43.5% and a majority of just 78 votes over Labour. The third (and most surprising) Sandwell BNP gain was in Tividale ward, where Carl Butler took 37% and a wafer thin majority of 33 votes over Labour. Equally surprising was the BNP's failure in Tipton Green, where Steven Parkes was the only white candidate in an even three-way contest but fell 73 votes behind Labour. Racial nationalists in Tipton have paid the price for years of bitter division between Nick Griffin and his former allies Steve and Sharron Edwards, whose Freedom Party was once the main challenger in Tipton. Despite this setback 2006 was a vintage year for Sandwell BNP. Of their nine candidates, three were elected and six runners-up. BNP strength on the council increased from one to four.

In neighbouring **Dudley** the BNP's five candidates all missed out. By far the best result was in Coseley East, where Kenneth Griffiths took 34%, losing to Labour by only 20 votes. The big disappointment was in the target ward Castle & Priory, once held by the party's deputy chief Simon Darby. The presence of a spoiler candidate from the UKIP, who took 10.4%, contributed to a surprisingly heavy defeat for the BNP's Julian Mitchell, whose 24.3% left him 552 votes behind Labour - perhaps the worst target seat result for the party.

While Dudley BNP were unlucky, some BNP victories elsewhere in the West Midlands were so fortunate as to be almost statistical flukes. In **Redditch** David Enderby won a four-way contest with only 31.4%, enough to give him a twelve vote majority over Labour. In what had been one of **Solihull**'s very few Labour areas, Chelmsley Wood, George Morgan's 33% was enough to give the BNP a nineteen-vote majority.

The strangest victory of the night was won by Albert Walker in the Abbey Green ward of **Stoke-on-Trent**. Just before the start of the 2006 campaign two Abbey Green Labour councillors defected to the far left Socialist Party. One of them, Cllr Paul Sutton, contested the ward as a Socialist candidate but was opposed by Labour, the Liberal Democrats and a left-wing Independent candidate as well as the Tories and the BNP. The outcome was a 131-vote majority for the BNP with only 24.9% - a percentage which in most wards wouldn't even get you second place!

Stoke BNP won two other wards. Phillip Sandland gained Bentilee & Townsend with 33.3% and a 58 vote majority over Labour. In Weston & Meir North Anthony Simmonds had a 130-vote majority over Labour. The BNP poll of 32.9% was enough

for the third Stoke gain of the night. However the party failed to gain its main Stoke target seat Longton North, where they won in 2003 and 2004. Labour held the ward by just 82 votes, even though Michael Coleman won 39.2%, this year's best Stoke BNP vote.

One of the most controversial results this year was in **Birmingham**. The BNP boldly contested every single ward in the city, including non-white ghetto wards such as Aston and Lozells. No-one expected the party to gain a seat, but Sharon Ebanks (a well-known contributor to the *Stormfront* internet forum, where her 'extremist' views have put her at odds with the leadership) was declared winner in Kingstanding ward, apparently after an error by the returning officer. The High Court has ordered a recount, which Cllr Ebanks seems certain to lose. Regardless of the Kingstanding controversy, Birmingham BNP achieved some significant results, notably 25.9% in Shard End and 24.7% in Oscott.

While the West Midlands effort was spread across the region, the East Midlands BNP concentrated its efforts in just three wards. The party will be slightly disappointed with the result in **Amber Valley**'s Heanor & Loscoe ward, where Paul Snell failed to improve on his 31% result in the by-election earlier this year and Labour's majority increased from 159 to 207. John Edwards in Heanor West also scored 31%, an advance of 5% on the 2004 election.

One region where performance failed to match pre-election hype was North East England. **Sunderland** BNP matched Birmingham by contesting every ward, but still looks a long way from identifying a credible target ward. In **Newcastle** the party made little progress, while in **Gateshead** there was a significant decline. Across the entire region the BNP managed only three second places, and all the party can boast about in the North East is that they seem to have seen off their National Front rivals, following the defection of former NF organiser Ken Booth.

The North East may now have to be ranked as one of the BNP's minor regions. Similarly election success for the South West BNP looks as far away as ever. This year the party fought just one ward in the region, gaining 16% in the Gorse Hill ward of **Swindon** borough council.

Elsewhere in the south the best BNP results were in the **Rushmoor** district of Hampshire, which includes Farnborough. BNP stalwart Warren Glass, formerly of West London, fared best of the party's three candidates, gaining 20.2% in Mayfield ward, up from 14.9% two years ago. As we go to press the Rushmoor BNP is contesting a by-election in Grange ward, where candidate Janette Pedrick achieved 16.9% in May and has a good chance of advancing into second place.

In **Southampton**, where the BNP fought five wards in 2004, they concentrated on just one this year - Bitterne ward, where their share of the vote rose from 11.2% to 15.2%. Yet there is still absolutely nothing to suggest that a serious BNP breakthrough will occur outside the racial 'melting pots' and white flight districts of Outer London, the post-industrial wasteland of the Midlands Black Country, and the Muslim colonies in the former mill towns of Lancashire and Yorkshire.

Until this year the strongest BNP region was Yorkshire - specifically a cluster of councils in the former industrial areas of West Yorkshire. The first success in the region was in January 2003 with the victory of Adrian Marsden in the Mixenden by-election for **Calderdale** Borough Council, based in Halifax. At the 2004 elections boundary changes

saw Cllr Marsden re-elected for Town ward, and he was joined on the council by Richard Mulhall and Tory defector Geoff Wallace, both elected in Illingworth & Mixenden ward.

In 2006 Cllr Marsden retired from the council and his BNP replacement Stuart Gill was badly beaten in Town ward, where the BNP vote fell from 1,095 to 748 and Labour gained a 403-vote majority. Geoff Wallace easily held the Illingworth & Mixenden ward with 35.6% and a 235 vote majority over Labour, but he was the only BNP winner in the borough and the party now has just two councillors in Calderdale, one of whom is facing fraud charges which could lead to an awkward by-election. Former North West regional organiser Chris Jackson achieved 21.6% in Todmorden, almost taking second place from an Asian Labour candidate, while a double election in Ovenden saw the BNP candidates run just behind Labour.

The largest cities in England have been extensively colonised by non-whites - **Leeds** is no exception, so it was a great achievement for the BNP to contest twenty-two wards across the city. Chris Beverley, a tireless racial nationalist campaigner, became the first ever Leeds BNP councillor by gaining Morley South ward with 32.9%, 293 votes ahead of the Morley Borough Independent candidate, with Labour in a poor third place.

Twenty-three BNP candidates stood in **Kirklees**, which unlike Leeds has a large number of highly winnable wards. Heckmondwike ward was comfortably won by David Exley in 2004 and this year Roger Roberts, already a parish councillor in Mirfield, gained a second seat in the ward. Another BNP gain was achieved by Colin Auty in Dewsbury East, who won 35.6% and a 290 vote majority over Labour. Kirklees now has three BNP councillors, and the party came close to further gains in Cleckheaton and Liversedge & Gomersal wards, the latter a rare example of the BNP almost taking a 'safe' Conservative seat.



Steven Smith (left) founder of Burnley BNP, on the campaign trail with Pendle BNP organiser Brian Parker (centre) and Samba (far right!). Brian went on to win Marsden ward to become Pendle's first BNP councillor. Steven also worked on the two EFP campaigns in Blackburn with Darwen, making a remarkable hat-trick of cross-party nationalist victories!

While the BNP advanced in Kirklees it struggled in 2006 in another Yorkshire stronghold - **Bradford**. As reported in the last issue of *H&D* the BNP lost its safest seat in Keighley West following an ugly row which led to the resignation of Cllr Angela Clarke and a disastrous by-election defeat. Beaten by-election candidate Ian Dawson failed again in the May election despite a huge campaign effort, polling 1,493 votes compared to ex-Cllr Clarke's 1,659 two years ago. Labour held the seat with a 334-vote majority.

Strangely two of Bradford BNP's sitting councillors vacated their seats this year, in one case fighting a different ward. If this was meant to be a clever strategy, it failed. In Wibsey Andrew Clarke lost the seat won by Arthur Redfearn in 2004, Labour gaining a 176 majority. In Worth Valley Cllr Chris Kirby stood down and the BNP vote fell from 1,480 to 1,161. The Conservatives comfortably won the ward and the BNP candidate was pushed into third place by Labour.

Bradford BNP group leader Dr James Lewthwaite will defend his Wyke ward seat next year. He will have been disturbed by this year's BNP failure in Wyke, where Robert Manby was 131 votes behind Labour but managed to hold on to second place.

All through his career in several racial nationalist movements, Nick Griffin has been obsessed by attention-grabbing stunts - some successful, others foolish. The decision to field Sharif Abdel Gawad as a BNP candidate in Bradford this year falls in the latter category. Mr Gawad finished bottom of the poll in Bowring and Barkerend ward.

The only good news in Bradford was in the perennial target ward Queensbury, where millionaire activist Paul Cromie comfortably won a former Conservative ward with a majority of 296. His wife Lynda was beaten by 143 votes in the Labour ward of Royds. Overall Bradford BNP suffered a net loss of one seat, on top of the Keighley by-election defeat, so the party now has just two Bradford councillors, James Lewthwaite in Wyke and Paul Cromie in Queensbury, compared to four a few months ago.

Former councillor Arthur Redfearn, victim of a high-profile unfair dismissal case, contested Tong ward this year, a traditionally safe Labour seat where he did well to take 32% but was 266 votes behind Labour. Meanwhile in the safe Conservative ward of Thornton & Allerton the BNP won 29.9%, 189 votes behind the Tories. These results were typical of one of the BNP problems this year - the party was able to poll well in a wide range of lower profile wards, but struggled in target seats when confronted by a determined and focused anti-fascist campaign.

Party chairman Nick Griffin, to his credit, admits this in the current issue of the party magazine *Identity*, where he writes that "in the places where it was clear a year or more ago that we had big potential, the opposition have been able to do enough work to keep us out this time." What Mr Griffin fails to recognise is that the test of political leadership is precisely this type of situation, and it is a test which he has repeatedly failed. Time and again BNP local units have created an opportunity, or Britain's escalating racial crisis has handed the party an opportunity on a plate. But time and again the BNP has failed to build on these opportunities, either through lack of experience or, in several infamous cases, where Mr Griffin has promoted factional splits and forced able organisers and activists out of the party.

The BNP's situation is similar to that of a lower division football team facing higher class opponents in an FA Cup tie. In such circumstances the lower division team can win, but not if the manager falls out with his best players and undermines morale.

The clearest examples of this syndrome during the last few years have been in North West England. The Griffin-era BNP had its first significant success in two Lancashire mill towns, Burnley and



Mark Cotterill (left) and Michael Johnson (right) observing the count at Blackburn Town Hall before their victories. Cllr Cotterill's 43.6% was the second highest nationalist vote in Britain

Oldham. At the 2001 General Election, held in the aftermath of serious race riots in Oldham and shortly before similar riots in Burnley, the BNP achieved 16.4% in Oldham West & Royton, 11.3% in Burnley, and 11.2% in Oldham East & Saddleworth. Twelve months later three BNP councillors were elected in Burnley, while in Oldham the BNP's five council candidates won an even higher average vote than their Burnley counterparts - 26.9% - even though they narrowly failed to gain a seat.

Regular readers will know that the BNP has suffered serious setbacks in Oldham and Burnley during the last few years, exacerbated by Nick Griffin's personal vendetta against certain activists in these two towns, notably Burnley branch organiser Steven Smith. This year **Burnley BNP**, in Eddy Butler's words, "just about held their own" after poor results in 2004 and 2005. David Thomson made Hapton with Park a 100% BNP ward, winning a 43 vote majority over Labour and taking 34.4% of the vote. In Gannow ward the controversial BNP candidate Derek Dawson won a tight three-way fight with only 31.7%, which was enough to give him a 76-vote majority over Labour. But in two other Burnley wards, Brunshaw and Rosegrove with Lowerhouse, the BNP vote fell even lower than their mediocre 2004 performance. Though the BNP currently has seven councillors in Burnley, the days when it formed the official opposition and was talked of as a serious challenger for power seem long gone.

Elsewhere in the North West region there were few results for the BNP to celebrate, and the best performances were in no hope wards. In **Salford's** Claremont ward, for example, the BNP's Edward O'Sullivan will have been very happy with his 16.2%, as will Donald Mooney with 20.6% in **Rochdale's** Healey ward and most of all Kev Bryan, a veteran of many 1990s campaigns, with an excellent 30.5% in **Rossendale's** Irwell ward.

In **Tameside** one of the most interesting results was 24.5% for veteran nationalist Dave Jones in Ashton Waterloo, but in the borough's main target ward Hyde Newton a 25.9% share represented no significant advance on BNP pioneer Mark Ward's 25.2% back in 2003. The real test for Tameside BNP will be two forthcoming by-elections in Stalybridge and Denton.

Outside Burnley the only BNP success was in the Marsden ward of **Pendle** borough council, not even contested in 2004, where Brian Parker won 38.3% and an eighty-vote majority over Labour. Yet the truth is that this victory was won despite the petty factional

spite of the BNP's own hierarchy. Brian Parker invited former Burnley BNP organiser Steven Smith to help with his campaign, but was reprimanded by regional organiser Roy Goodwin, who loyally echoed his master Nick Griffin's voice, insisting that Steven Smith was now *persona non grata*. Mr Parker did the smart thing and ignored Goodwin's orders, which is one reason why he is now Councillor Parker!

If there are two council areas in the whole of Britain where Nick Griffin's leadership can most reasonably be judged, they are Oldham and Blackburn. Mr Griffin argues that the establishment has put its entire resources into stopping the party from gaining a seat in **Oldham**, but the truth is that the Oldham BNP has seriously declined, with morale virtually collapsing and the party unable even to field candidates in what should still be strong nationalist areas of the town.

This year's election offers a stark comparison with the 2002 campaign, in which the present author was a prominent activist. In both years the BNP fielded five candidates. Back in 2002 the total BNP vote was 4,391 - an average of 26.9%. This year the total BNP vote was 3,074 - an average of 20.1%. Back in 2002 the BNP almost won St James's ward, forcing a recount with 35% of the vote. This year the BNP finished a poor third in St James's ward with only 20.4%.

Four years ago Nick Griffin told his loyal acolytes that Oldham BNP would have won a seat if it hadn't been sabotaged by a supposed *Searchlight* spy. What fantastic tale will the party chairman spin to explain subsequent failures after branch organisers bent to his will.

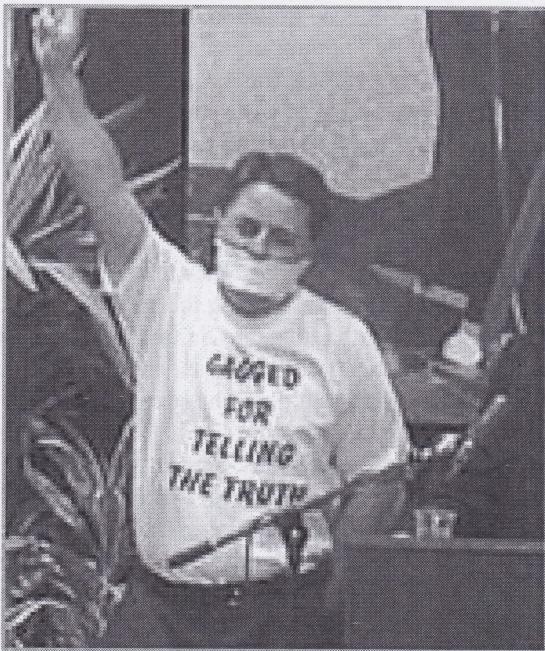
After relentlessly hyping the BNP throughout the campaign, the national and regional media was puzzled by the results in **Blackburn with Darwen**. This is another area which has massive potential for racial nationalism, but where the BNP has repeatedly failed to capitalise on this potential, hindered by their own regional and national leadership.

Back in November 2002 BNP candidate Robin Evans won the Mill Hill by-election to become the first Blackburn BNP councillor - but few would have imagined that almost four years on this would still be the party's only victory in the borough. Within a few months of the Mill Hill victory Blackburn had been afflicted by one of Nick Griffin's trademarks, an ill-advised factional fallout. In 2003 and 2004 this factional situation worsened after Mr Griffin fell out with his former ally Mark Cotterill, editor of *Heritage and Destiny*.

This year Mr Cotterill and local BNP organiser Nick Holt reached an agreement not to stand against each other. The BNP contested seven wards and Mr Cotterill's England First Party two wards. Nick Griffin would have preferred the BNP to cut its own throat and hand victory to Labour by splitting the nationalist vote across the borough. The results proved how foolish this strategy would have been.

In Mill Hill the BNP continued its slow recovery from the Robin Evans fiasco, holding on to second place with 25.7%, 290 votes behind Labour. In safe Labour Shadsworth BNP candidate Sue Grimshaw took advantage of the Conservatives' absence, winning Blackburn BNP's best percentage vote - 34.9% - but 169 votes behind Labour. The BNP's number two target seat Higher Croft saw Natalie Jeal gain a creditable second place in a four-cornered contest with 29.6%, 132 votes behind Labour, while in the number one target seat of Ewood branch organiser Nick Holt was understandably disappointed to finish 110 votes behind Labour, polling 31.9%.

Former branch organiser John Murphy shocked local Conservatives by taking 527 votes (19.8%) in the ultra-safe Tory ward of Livesey with Pleasington, despite having no help or support



The famous image of Nick Griffin at the Oldham election count in 2001. Ironically the following year, despite excellent election results, Griffin himself began gagging Oldham BNP activists, resulting in the branch's calamitous decline

from other BNP members. Strangely, instead of helping John Murphy, a number of Blackburn members went over to leaflet wards in Burnley. After appealing for help he was promised support from Roy Goodwin and Blackpool BNP (who had no elections in their town this year and so were free to help in other areas), however they never showed up (*Ed: perhaps they went to Burnley too!*).

Not wanting to see John's chances suffer because of Mr Goodwin's lack of interest, H&D editor Mark Cotterill (who was standing in the neighbouring ward of Meadowhead) took time off from his own campaign and went over to Livesey to help John on two separate occasions. Although proscribed by the BNP leadership I too volunteered and helped John leaflet his ward, as did EFP member Ronnie from Bradford. As yet none of us have received a thank you letter from Mr Griffin.

The harsh truth is that Blackburn BNP failed to win any seats again because it lacked numbers of activists, finance to produce quality campaign materials (because their wealthy members refused to donate the funds needed) and campaigning experience to make best use of both activists and finances.

By contrast the England First Party got maximum value from much smaller resources. The EFP contested two contrasting wards. In Meadowhead, a white mostly working-class ward which had been a Labour-Tory marginal, *Heritage and Destiny* editor Mark Cotterill won a genuine landslide, ousting the far-left Labour councillor Ron O'Keefe and winning a majority of 274 votes. Mark's 43.6% was the second best nationalist vote in the entire election, beaten only by the BNP's Simon Smith in Sandwell, who did not face Conservative opposition.

Cllr Cotterill was joined in Blackburn town hall by his EFP colleague Michael Johnson, landlord of the famous Blackburn Rovers pub - Uncle Jack's - in Lower Darwen, who took Fernhurst ward - previously regarded as one of the safest Tory seats in the Borough - with a majority of 45 votes and a 37.1% share.

A couple of days after the election, Blackburn BNP organiser Nick Holt got a rather strange phone call from the North West organiser Roy Goodwin. Goodwin told him that it was disgraceful that the EFP

had won two seats and that he blamed Holt for this 'outrage'. Goodwin's reasoning was that had the BNP stood candidates in the wards the EFP fought, they would have split the nationalist vote and stopped the EFP from winning - which he obviously thinks would be preferable to having Cllrs Cotterill and Johnson in the town hall representing white residents! He ended the phone call by asking Holt to resign as Blackburn BNP organiser forthwith.

Thankfully Nick Holt was made of sterner stuff than the average BNP organiser and told Roy Goodwin in no uncertain terms that he would not be resigning. This is the e-mail Nick Holt sent:

Dear Roy, Having fought seven seats and finishing a close second in our five targets I feel we are on a sound footing. My personal feeling is that I could never contribute to Labours foothold on our local government. Had we stood against Mark Cotterill, Labour would have two more councillors this morning and would be incredibly hard to shift in the future. I am sorry that you feel that I have "disgraced" the British National Party and I will happily step aside for someone who can take this group onwards. I will not resign my post as I feel that I have achieved a great deal with the Blackburn group and if you want me out you will have to sack me, as it is not my intention to leave the work I have done to be destroyed by incompetence and misunderstanding of the local situation in Blackburn. I am very pleased with my achievements and am especially proud of all of our candidates. They would all have made excellent councillors and would never disgrace the Party as there is not a wife beater, communist housewife or violent thug amongst them. Yours faithfully, Nick Holt.

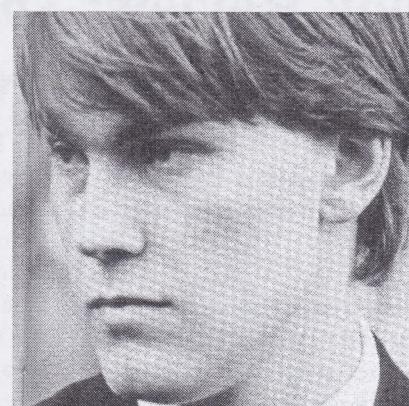
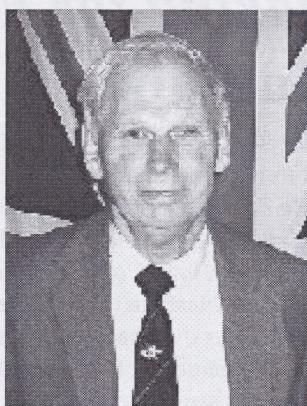
One can only hope that the Blackburn results will bring the BNP leadership to its senses. Previous successes in the North West have come to nothing because of leadership errors that were inept at best or malicious at worst. Some areas of Yorkshire seem to be heading the same way. If the latest success story in Barking and Dagenham is not to turn sour, the leadership will have to recognise that unquestioning loyalty to Nick Griffin is not the sole criterion for judging the suitability of a local organiser or candidate.

This year's results have also finally resolved a long running argument between Nick Griffin and the late John Tyndall. JT argued in his magazine *Spearhead* that, without wishing to minimise the contribution of many outstanding candidates and organisers, external circumstances had contributed a great deal to BNP successes since 2001. The establishment parties have increasingly struggled to maintain their stranglehold on the electoral system against a plethora of radical challengers. As well as that general groundswell of anti-establishment voices, there has been a specific awakening of racial consciousness, assisted by such factors as the asylum crisis and Islamic terrorism.

Nick Griffin maintained that most of the BNP's success was down to his direction of the party, and especially to his swing away from traditional racial nationalism. He insisted that JT's supporters needed to explain why, if there had been a general swing towards racial nationalism regardless of the BNP's strategies, all other nationalist election results had been "uniformly pathetic".

In 2006 non-BNP nationalist results were certainly not "uniformly pathetic". In Blackburn the EFP fought two and won two. Across the country the supposedly "extremist" National Front, though of course much smaller than the BNP, won some excellent votes, including 25.9% for party chairman Tom Holmes in Great Yarmouth's Nelson ward and a runners-up spot for Ian Edward with 581 votes in Hillingdon's Harefield ward. Other NF candidates in Hillingdon and Hounslow achieved comparable results to London BNP candidates.

An older generation of NF activists have been active in Hounslow for some years. Phil Andrews, a former leader of the NF's 'political soldier' faction, is now a councillor for Isleworth ward and leader of the Community Group, which has six councillors in the borough and has formed a coalition with the Conservative Party, posing an interesting dilemma for the ultra-PC Conservative leader David Cameron.



Four party leaders (left to right): Robin Tilbrook of the English Democrats polled 16.6% in Epping Forest; Tom Holmes of the National Front increased his vote in Great Yarmouth to 25.9% despite being arrested while canvassing; Patrick Harrington of Third Way, whose party formed an electoral pact with the BNP in the London Borough of Havering, leading to one BNP victory; Roger Knapman of the United Kingdom Independence Party, which won one seat in Hartlepool but had a feeble showing overall

An electoral pact between the BNP and Third Way in **Havering** helped the BNP's Alan Bailey to win a seat in Gooshays ward, as mentioned earlier. The best Third Way performance was in Elm Park ward, where Joyce Pammen was runner-up with 989 votes, 431 votes behind the Conservatives.

Of course it remains true that any racial nationalist party standing against the BNP - unless they have built a very strong local base like the EFP in Blackburn - is likely to be crushed. Two NF candidates in **Birmingham** and the BPP's Eddy Morrison in **Leeds** met exactly this fate.

Surprisingly the "non-racist" English Democrats defeated the BNP in Denby Dale ward, **Kirklees**, winning 8.3%. Elsewhere the best English Democrat results were 21.2% in the Finningley ward of **Doncaster**, 16.6% for party leader Robin Tilbrook in **Epping Forest**'s Greenstead ward, 15.4% in Pin Green ward, **Stevenage**, and 13.7% in Copnor ward, **Portsmouth**.

The English Democrat leadership still appears confused as to whether to welcome results achieved by other parties who share some of their objectives - such as Third Way and the England First Party - or to condemn such parties as "racists". The disastrous ED campaign in the Bromley and Chislehurst parliamentary by-election on June 29th (*see Movement News*) may help to concentrate their minds.

The 2006 elections offered convincing evidence to support the theory (previously advanced here and in *Spearhead*) that BNP and other nationalist success at the polls is part of a possibly permanent trend away from the establishment political parties. Parties of the far left - previously insignificant apart from a brief postwar flourish by the Communist Party in 1945 - continued to mount serious challenges to Labour hegemony in several council areas.

The most serious challenge came, as expected, from the Respect Coalition, which is an alliance of Britain's largest Trotskyist organisation, the Socialist Workers Party, and mostly Muslim anti-war campaigners, often operating as a bloc vote controlled by Bangladeshi "community leaders" and the like. The inherent problems of a coalition between the ultra-left and Islamic reactionaries failed to obstruct Respect's electoral progress.

In the East End of London, where once the challenge to the establishment came from Oswald Mosley, then from the NF, then from the BNP, it now comes from Respect. In **Tower Hamlets** they won twelve seats and now form the official opposition to Labour, while in **Newham** (another old BNP stronghold) they won only one seat but took 26% of the total vote across the borough. Outside London Respect took one seat in **Birmingham** and missed out on a second **Preston** City Council seat by just seven votes.

Other far left parties won seats in the south London borough of **Lewisham**, site of infamous racial conflict in the 1970s, and in white working class areas of **Oxford**, where part of the former heavy mob of Red Action has (quite successfully) set up its own political party, the Independent Working Class Association.

Only one part of the anti-establishment political scene had a miserable polling day - the Eurosceptic movement, which celebrated lucrative victories at the 2004 European elections but has done nothing since. The UKIP put up 319 council candidates, but few made any impact. One seat was gained in **Hartlepool**, but UKIP's recent Tory defector on the **Wirral** council lost her seat.

The news was even worse for the minuscule UKIPs splinter group Veritas, launched with much fanfare by television presenter and former UKIP MEP Robert Kilroy-Silk two years ago. Kilroy-Silk has long since abandoned the party, which was only able to field four candidates in **Bolton** and **Hull** this time. Even this concentration of party resources failed to raise much interest - Veritas polled an average of just 98 votes (3.5%).

So what can we conclude from the 2006 elections? Nick Griffin has grounds for optimism, if he can avoid jail in the autumn, but the BNP seems to lack a coherent strategy. One minute Eddy Butler is stressing the importance of target wards, the next his leader is acknowledging relative failure in most target wards but making a virtue of necessity by inventing a supposed strategy of launching "bush fires" outside target areas. This is just the old opportunist Griffin - wait and see what happens, then claim that any success was part of your grand strategy and any failure was either a one-off fluke, someone else's fault or caused by a conspiracy of enemy 'moles'.

That is not to say that such moles do not exist, and the evidence suggests they may be close to the top of the party. While BNP strategy is confused, enemy strategy is clear. The BNP has been allowed to put down roots in many parts of the country but mysteriously has been uprooted by factional bitterness or criminal charges in each area (so far) where serious progress has been achieved or threatened: Burnley, Oldham, Bradford and Calderdale.

The spotlight is now firmly on Barking and Dagenham, where there will be high expectations of the new BNP council team, and Blackburn with Darwen, where the BNP leadership is now under pressure to patch up differences with Nick Griffin's old factional enemies. The embattled white voters of Britain are watching and waiting.

Peter Rushmore, Manchester, England



Book Review: *Speaking for England*, by David Faber

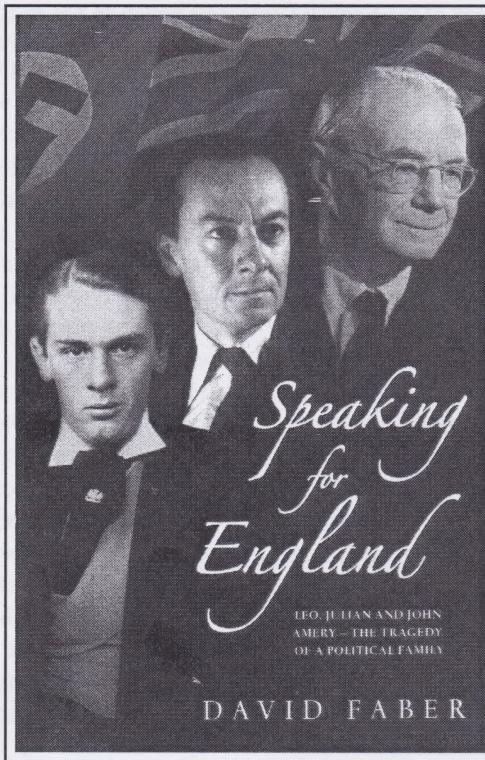
Published by Free Press, 2005, ISBN 0-7432-5688-3 (hbk), 612pp. Available from Simon & Schuster UK Ltd, Africa House, 64-78 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6AH, or from www.amazon.co.uk currently on offer at £13.20

The story of the Amery family could have been invented by a novelist seeking to portray British decline during the 20th century, and the various doomed responses of patriotic Conservatives attempting to reverse that decline. Leo Amery rose as a Tory statesman after the Great War of 1914-18 - the true holocaust of the 20th century, which left the British Empire at its zenith in terms of territory, though about to spiral into economic, political and racial crisis.

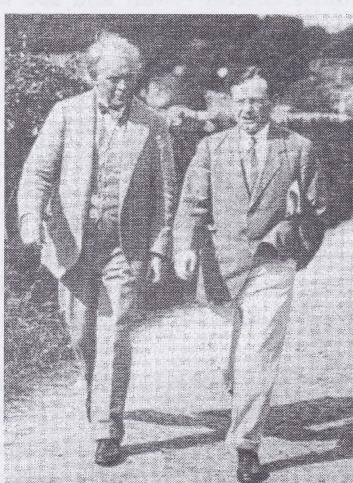
His sons John and Julian reacted very differently to what would now be called late imperial and post-imperial angst. Julian was a war hero who maintained his British intelligence connections through a long post-war career in Conservative politics, ending as Baron Amery of Lustleigh. John (known throughout his life as Jack) spent the war in "enemy-occupied" Europe and attempted to recruit British prisoners and internees to fight alongside the Axis forces against Stalin's advancing Red Army. His reward was the gallows - executed for treason by Britain's post-war Labour government. The greatest irony is that (possibly unknown to his elder son) Leo's mother was of Jewish origin.

This triple biography by David Faber, a former Conservative MP related by marriage to the youngest of his subjects, deserves to be read by racial nationalists and by those of more conventional outlook. Both might find their standard assumptions challenged.

Pater familias Leo Amery was one of the brightest political stars of his generation, but few have more tragically fulfilled Enoch Powell's



dictum that all political careers end in failure. A brilliant student at Harrow (where he was a contemporary of the rather less academically gifted Winston Churchill) and Balliol College, Oxford, Leo embarked on a swashbuckling career as a *Times* foreign correspondent while still a fellow of All Souls. "Finding himself at a loose end", as Faber puts it, he passed his Bar exams in 1898 after a mere three weeks of cramming, but swiftly dropped the law when offered a permanent position by *The Times*.



Leo Amery (right) with Prime Minister Lloyd George in 1918

In September 1899 Leo arrived in South Africa and was soon promoted to become the *Times* chief correspondent covering the Boer War. His coverage of the war made his name, though his editor was exasperated by long delays in producing manuscripts for the multi-volume *Times History of the South African War*. It also introduced him to the machinations of high-level politics, since the British side of the conflict was overshadowed by a bitter factional conflict between two senior generals, Sir Redvers Buller and Lord Roberts. Amery was a leading partisan in the anti-Buller faction, and his articles contributed to Buller's dismissal.

While still engaged in his Boer War *magnum opus*, Amery wholeheartedly committed himself to the cause of "tariff reform", a campaign launched in 1903 by the Unionist statesman and Birmingham MP Joseph Chamberlain to abandon the traditional British policy of free trade and transform the British empire into a great trading network protected by a tariff barrier. Chamberlain's campaign split the Conservative Party, and meant that Leo's own first steps towards a parliamentary career were in a climate of Liberal Party dominance. The Liberals won a landslide general election victory in 1906, helped by the Gladstone-MacDonald pact which mostly avoided splits in the anti-Conservative vote.

Soon after this election Joseph Chamberlain was struck down by a massive stroke, leaving his movement without a leader and arguably making a decisive contribution to the eventual collapse of the Empire.

Chamberlain's influence won Amery his first chance as a parliamentary candidate when he fought East Wolverhampton at the 1906 general election. Given the national swing he was doomed to defeat, but at a by-election in the same seat two years later he came within eight votes of a remarkable Tory gain, and only failed because of the nefarious activities of the local Catholic priest, who rather like today's Muslim community leaders managed to raise a number of his parishioners from the dead to vote Liberal! Those were the days when large numbers of Britons really cared about party politics - as evidenced by the turnout of 40,000 at a celebration rally after the by-election!

While waiting for an opportunity to enter Parliament, Amery joined the boards of several Canadian and South African companies, which in the short term at least guaranteed him a comfortable income. In January 1910 he gave up on Wolverhampton after an increase in the Liberal majority and as the constitutional crisis reached boiling point at a second general election in December 1910 he lost the east London constituency of Bow and Bromley to the Labour left-winger George Lansbury, after a bitter campaign which foreshadowed the class-dominated politics of the post-war years.

Finally in May 1911 Amery's Chamberlain connections paid off when he was elected unopposed as MP for South Birmingham, a seat which (renamed Birmingham Sparkbrook) he was to retain for more than three decades until losing to Labour in 1945.

Soon after taking his seat Amery became one of the leaders of the 'diehard' faction of Unionists who would stop at nothing

in their opposition to what they saw as the subversion of the constitution by the Liberal leaders Asquith and Lloyd George. Using military connections from his South African years Amery had an influential role behind the scenes in the events leading to the so-called Mutiny at the Curragh, when British officers refused to use military force against Ulstermen resisting Home Rule. Amery launched an pro-Unionist journal *Covenanter* in this period, with the uncompromising motto: "Put your trust in God and keep your powder dry."

The Home Rule and other constitutional crises were of course overtaken by the outbreak of war in 1914. Amery joined the staff of a British general in Belgium, where he witnessed the remarkable Christmas truce of 1914 and played in several football matches between opposing British and German forces. Then as an intelligence officer in the Balkans he observed the disastrously under-resourced Dardanelles campaign.

This fuelled Amery's determination back on the home front to oust what he and many others regarded as the dangerously incompetent Asquith government. Amery went much further than just wanting to oust the alcoholic prime minister - he saw the government's manifest failures as an opportunity to purge Liberalism from Britain's political life entirely.

Amery's post-war hopes for a revival of imperialist Toryism rested on Andrew Bonar Law, who replaced Lloyd George as prime minister in 1922 and appointed Amery to his first senior government job as First Lord of the Admiralty.

Within months Bonar Law was dead from throat cancer, going down in history as "the unknown prime minister", the second of Amery's sponsors to be removed from the scene while in his political prime. While Amery had his most productive spell in government as Colonial Secretary after 1924 under Law's successor Stanley Baldwin, it is perhaps true to say that the deaths of Joseph Chamberlain and Bonar Law, coming when they did, stopped Amery progressing to the highest offices, and perhaps the Tory leadership.

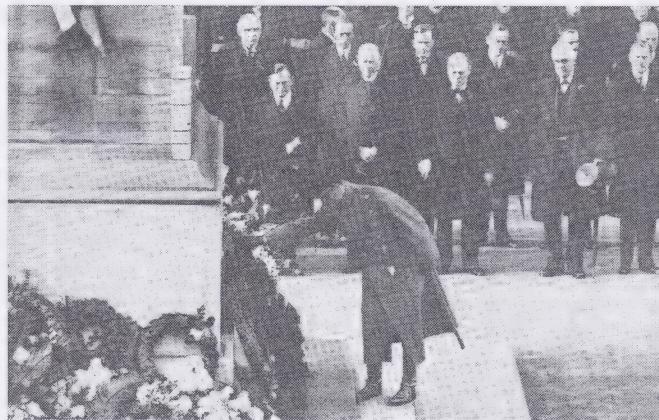
At the Colonial Office Amery pushed through reforms that led to a new department being created for the Dominions and handled the British end of the crucial Imperial Conference of 1926, but as the world drifted into economic crisis he failed in his final efforts to create an imperial trading bloc and implement at least some of the policies first called for by Chamberlain more than twenty years earlier. The main obstacle was Winston Churchill, by now Chancellor of the Exchequer and firmly wedded to the outmoded policies of free trade. Amery's defeat on this issue led to his exclusion from later Baldwin cabinets.

Faber's chapters on imperial policy deserve careful study by modern racial nationalists, since they help to explain why, after

the post-war dissolution of the Empire, Britain failed to build the White Commonwealth into the substantial political and economic force that it could have been, and ultimately explain why other Tories later opted for European federalism.

Sadly Amery's imperial vision led him into a deluded approach to the two biggest issues of his later years. As Secretary of State for India in Churchill's wartime cabinet - Amery's last ministerial office - he imagined that a relatively liberal approach to Indian nationalists would allow some sort of British raj to survive. The reality was, as then Viceroy Lord Linlithgow pointed out in a telegram, that "India and Burma have no natural association with the Empire, from which they are alien by race, history and religion, and for which as such neither of them have any natural affection." Were Britain to appear to be losing the war, Linlithgow accurately predicted, Indian nationalists' only concern would be "to make terms with the victor at our expense".

(Above) Leo Amery among a delegation of Cabinet ministers at the Cenotaph on Armistice Day 1921; (below) 'traitor' John Amery under arrest in Milan, May 1945



Amery's attitude to the approach of war in the 1930s was his biggest political error, reflecting what had become an utterly unreal view of Britain's place in the world. As several historians have recently concluded, only some form of accommodation with the Third Reich, which Hitler repeatedly offered, could have saved the British Empire. Amery however consistently took an anti-German line.

In 1935 Amery outraged many of his former colleagues by opposing calls for sanctions against Italy over Mussolini's invasion of Abyssinia. He felt that such a move would inevitably lead to war with Italy, and as he told his constituents he "was not prepared to send a single Birmingham lad to his death for the sake of Abyssinia."

Moreover he was one of several influential Tories who felt that Britain should be building close ties to Italy as a diplomatic counterweight to Germany's resurgence. "For electioneering purposes and largely through Eden's insistence," he wrote, "Italy was being made an enemy where the German problem demanded that she remain a friend." Readers may wonder whether Amery's attitude owed anything to Italian fascism's more benign attitude to the Jewish question.

After Neville Chamberlain's last-minute avoidance of war at Munich in 1938, Amery became one of his government's toughest critics and was increasingly aligned with his old enemy Churchill. This led to his two best-known parliamentary interventions, one of which inspired the title of this book.

Reviewed by Peter Rushmore, Manchester, England

Editors note: Part 2 of this book review will appear in the next issue of Heritage and Destiny.



Movie Review: *Munich*

Released by Universal Pictures, December 2005, Running time 182 minutes. Rated R/15. Now available on DVD

A film of uncommon depth, intelligence, and sensitivity, *Munich* defies easy labeling. Watching the movie is like reading a top-notch espionage thriller by Le Carre or Deighton. Yet, at the same time, this is a visual experience. The moral and ethical elements, layered atop a story that is ripe with suspense, put to shame Hollywood's typical ventures into this genre. *Munich* is an eye-opener - a motion picture that asks difficult questions, presents well-developed characters, and keeps us white-knuckled throughout. It was one of the best movies of 2005 that I saw.

I was eleven years old at the time of the 1972 Olympics, so my recall of events is shaky. But I remember my father being engrossed by the television coverage, and at school the next day our headmaster addressed the whole school and tried to explain to us what had happened. I understood at the time that something tragic had happened, but being only young I had soon forgotten about it and was more concerned about my team's next football match!

Some of that coverage - news clips featuring Jim McKay, Peter Jennings, and others - is used during a fifteen-minute prologue in *Munich*. This film is not about the Black September terrorist action that shattered the stillness of the Munich Olympic village, but about Israel's response to that act. Spielberg sets the stage by opening with a mixture of dramatic re-creations and archival news footage. By the time we meet the main character, Avner (Eric Bana), the die has been cast.

Avner is the leader of a five-man team of covert, ex-Mossad operatives who have been given unofficial status by the

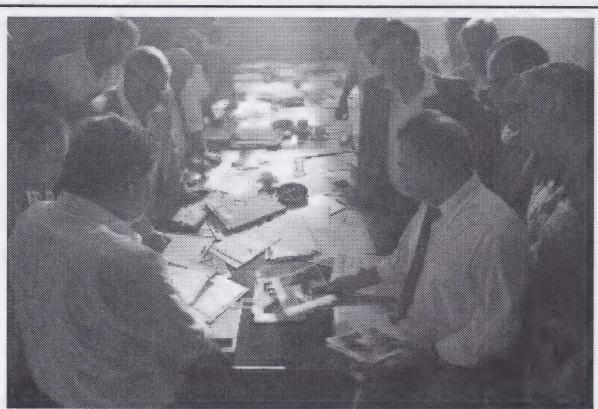
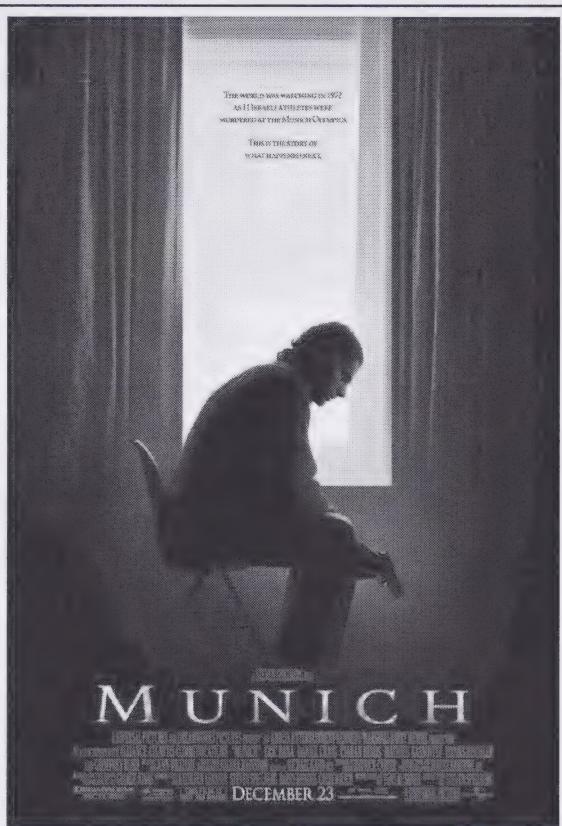
government of Israel so they can track down and assassinate the eleven Palestinians responsible for planning and executing the attack. Their lone contact is their handler, Ephraim (Geoffrey Rush), who provides them with information about how they can obtain money to fund their operation. Avner accepts the job despite having a seven-month pregnant wife (Ayelet Zurer) waiting for him in Jerusalem. For Avner, nothing is more important than Zionism and loyalty to Israel - at least when the ordeal begins.

The group consists of Steve (Daniel Craig), a South African hothead who is eager - almost too eager - to shed blood, but never really gets involved with the main action; Carl (Ciaran Hinds), an unnaturally cool and collected "cleaner"; Robert (Mathieu Kassovitz), a toymaker-turned-bombmaker; and Hans (Hanns Zischler), an expert forger. After making contact with an information collector named Louis (Mathieu Amalrac), Avner begins learning the locations of his targets. His mission takes him around the globe - from Italy to Paris to Düsseldorf to Beirut to Athens to London to Holland and finally New York City - as his pursuit of his goal becomes single-minded. Tragic near-misses, an erosion of conscience, and the realization that the hunters may have become the hunted turn Avner's assignment into a nightmare. And the most dangerous target - who may be allied with the CIA - remains elusive.

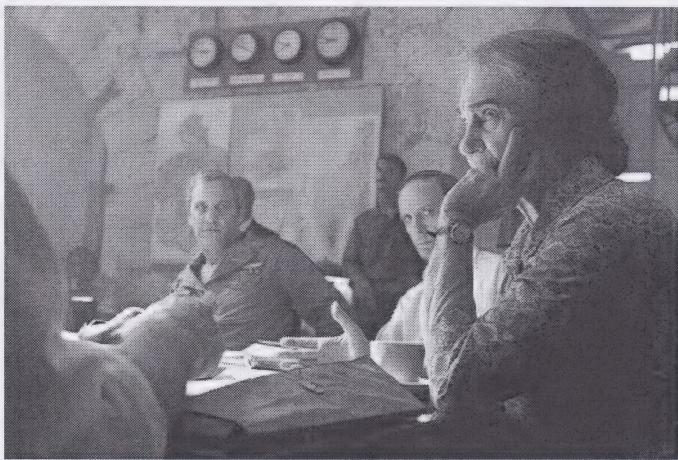
Munich, which is based on George Jonas' book *Vengeance*, claims to have been "inspired" by true events, which places it into the category of fiction. Key events occurred, but all the character interaction is made up. Despite the historical nature of the story, the synergy with today's events is impossible to miss. Every word that is spoken about terrorism is as relevant today as it was in the early 1970s.

The best espionage thrillers are gritty, claustrophobic pieces, filled to the brim with lies, betrayals, and paranoia. Those qualities are evident here. What begins as an act of patriotic fervor ends in a quagmire of moral ambiguity. Avner doesn't know what to believe any more, and he has lost the capacity to differentiate right from wrong, necessary from gratuitous. What's one more death, even if the person's name isn't on the list? The currency of his world is information, but its reliability is often determined after it's too late. And trust is a luxury Avner cannot afford. The deeper one gets into the espionage game, the more difficult it becomes to differentiate reality from a fabric of deceit woven by enemies - if those enemies truly exist.

Munich illustrates how Avner's moral compass is knocked askew. In the beginning, he doesn't question the righteousness of his actions. But when it comes to make the first kill - in Italy - he hesitates, and it falls to one of his confederates to fire the shot. As killing becomes easier, Avner questions its morality before ceasing to care. It becomes a routine: learn where the next target is, devise a plan,



A meeting of the Israeli secret service plans the revenge mission against Black September



Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir meets with her cabinet

then execute it. On one occasion - perhaps the most tense and masterful scene in the film - a little girl answers an explosives-packed phone that is intended as a lethal trap for her father. On another occasion, Avner ends up within the blast radius of one of his bombs.

With each assassination, there is a Black September reprisal: a bomb in a bus station, a shooting spree, etc. There's nothing new about the cycle of terrorism, but all it means to Avner and his team is that they have opened a "dialogue" with their opponents. For Prime Minister Golda Meir, the doctrine is inescapable: "Every civilization finds it necessary to negotiate compromises with its own values... Forget peace now. We have to show them we're strong." Does Israel

have the moral high ground? And, if so, for how long? At one point, one of Avner's team comments, "[We] do what the terrorists do." In the trenches of this kind of war, are there good guys and bad guys, or has everyone slipped into the murky gray of the middle ground?

Spielberg asks, but cannot answer, a key question: Is a war against terrorism winnable? We would like to think the answer is "yes", but the IRA and ANC have proved otherwise. It would help us sleep better at night. But Munich points out a sobering truth: for every terrorist killed, there is another - possibly a worse one - waiting to take his place. Capturing or killing Osama bin Laden would be a great propaganda victory for Bush/Blair, but would it mean anything? In the end, Avner and his team must face this question. Can the killing end with eleven men when each is replaced before his body has been interred?

Spielberg the good democrat till the end, takes pains to present both sides of the issue. To proffer the Palestinian perspective, he provides a rational terrorist who engages in an intellectual debate with Avner about how the Palestinians have resorted to the only methods left to them, how they are willing to wait generations to achieve their aims, and how the concept of "home" - no matter how unappealing the actual land - is precious beyond all others. Black September, unlike other recognizable terrorist groups like

the IRA, ETA and ANC is the only organization without a land to call its own.

With a performance that never misses a beat, Eric Bana gives us a man who loses his way, morally and spiritually. When he acts purely for revenge, Avner becomes what the Mossad intended, but he never envisioned. As Steve, future James Bond Daniel Craig shows a caged, homicidal fury. Ciaran Hinds (seen most recently as Julius Caesar in HBO's *Rome*) depicts Carl as a dignified, repressed man whose passion is bubbling beneath the



Mossad officer Avner (left) in Tel Aviv meets with his handler, who convinces him to take on the mission of assassinating the leaders of Black September

surface. Mathieu Kassovitz and Hanns Zischler round out the primary team of actors with sincere, low-key performances. The chameleon-like Geoffrey Rush shows up as Avner's handler. Veteran French actors Michael Lonsdale and Mathieu Amalric play the father-and-son source of much of Avner's information.

With *Munich*, Spielberg has emphasized his position as one of the world's most compelling filmmakers. (Some might, I suppose, consider *Munich* to be a penance for *War of the Worlds*?) The movie works on numerous levels and, like *Saving Private Ryan*, it becomes the rare genre movie that escapes its expected boundaries and is transformed into something new and powerful.

This is a serious, adult motion picture. The ending is not as bleak as it could be, but it will send audiences away in a reflective mood, pondering not only the events of the movie, but how close Spielberg's fictionalized world of the early 1970s is to our real world here in 2006.

Reviewed by Mark Cotterill, Blackburn, England



Israeli agents escape after an assassination of another Arab

Is there a Nationalist Economics ?

The many theoretical disputes that exist among nationalists are indicative of a rich intellectual life. This is a movement that is and, if one studies its history, always has been, full of theoretical ferment, with creative ideas and insights always emerging. A cynic might note, perhaps, that explorations of the mind have come to replace real-life implementation of policies. We have for very long now been a movement in search of political power. In lieu of achieving it, all we can do, at present, is debate among ourselves.

Thus, the search for true nationalist doctrines has both a plus and minus side. It can serve as a crutch to make us seem we are involved in a great struggle, when in reality we are merely debating our nearest comrades on ideological fine points. Yet, we cannot escape, in our more optimistic moments, the hope that these internal reflective quarrels are better equipping us for the day when the realization of ideals will have benefited from the clarifications of past decades.

Before turning to the question of, what, if anything, is a legitimate economic policy for nationalism it is best that we first define the term itself. What is nationalism? In fact, the very phrase is no longer in vogue in some movement circles. The nation is no longer viewed as the proper vehicle to advance the interest of the peoples, race or local communities. Actually, in historical terms, the nation state in some European lands was clearly a product of the Enlightenment and replaced older, more traditional and rooted structures of community. Italy would be a primary example of this. But throughout Europe the centralizing force of the nation often worked against the sense of place, memory, and group continuity. It is out of this analysis that the philosophy known as "Europe of the Hundred Flags" was born. And, if this was true a century ago

it is certainly true today when the state is the stated enemy of peoples, their identities and traditions. According to this particular view "small" is always "beautiful" and fascism is and was a bad thing. Once again, this strain of thought usually called radical nationalism or localist nationalism has achieved some acceptance of late.

On the other hand, there are those who see European restoration as only possible through a strong national government which would lead an Augustan-like return of the masses to a sense of roots and identity. Alternatively, in this big government nationalist camp, there is another notion of not looking back at all, rather to the building,

under firm statist supervision, of some form of "New Man." Fascism itself in many of its incarnations was a forward looking movement, with its embrace of art deco and general "futurist" philosophy. In addition, localist nationalism usually features a greater acceptance or, at least, tolerance of Christianity than does fascist nationalism which usually sees the state or the race as the embodiment of some vaguely defined "spirit" or *geist*, replacing the weak Triune God of Europe's past.

Regardless of these differences of political and primary philosophies there still does seem to be some continuity that transcends all counter-revolutionary movements. At times, they have actually united in opposition to Communism and American mass capitalism. Again, not all today would be at ease with the term counter-revolutionary just as many feel that

the phrase right-wing is no longer useful. They would argue that whatever it is we still fight for, it is not legitimist restoration in the continental sense or long standing wealth or aristocratic privilege. Yet, if this is not the heart of our struggle what is? Once again we seem hard pressed to get at the root of what the "movement" is. Is there some unifying commitment that unites the likes of Falangists, the Iron Guard, the BUF, the Action Française, of the past and those varied schools of nationalism that we have witnessed over recent decades?

Perhaps, the only thing that unifies all the above is the belief that, whatever, their varied perspectives might be on universal norms, they all believed and believe that group identities, be they racial, ethnic, communal, religious are significant and worthy of loyalty, preservation and improvement.

With this fairly elastic definition in hand, we now turn to the issue before us. Is there a particular school of economics that best fits nationalist or, as we have refined it, group continuity politics?

Within the ranks of the movement there have emerged essentially three schools of thought on economic policy. The first, which is associated with old school Toryism and the immediate pre- and post war American right is sympathetic to individualism and favours some form of libertarianism which will allow men to maintain their own property and profits derived from free enterprise and a largely unfettered market.

This approach was seen by others as antithetical to the sense of community, empathy and harmony that nationalism taught. They offered in place of "rugged individualism" and massive profits the notion of the state or monarchy as the arbiter of the folk's economic needs. Class warfare would end in the holistic unified



Radical nationalist ideas were popularised by Hilaire Belloc (top left) and U.S. presidential candidates William Jennings Bryan (right) and George Wallace (bottom left)



Alexander Dugin is the most prominent Russian critic of neo-conservative hegemony

realm of loyal and self sacrificing citizens. This yielded the corporate state school, fascism and assorted versions of national socialism.

Finally, and much in vogue in recent years, is a commitment to some form of localized emphasis with a populist desire to distribute wealth and property in an equitable fashion among the people. This view tends to reject state centered socialism but supports an initial re-adjustment of ownership in order to provide a new base of social justice. Largely left unstated is that this system, in order to succeed, must provide some overarching means to prevent a further large accumulation of wealth by the few via investments, speculation, foreign imports and the other means of unencumbered success in a free economy.

What unites the above outlined philosophies is their rejection of the absolute individualism of libertarianism as well its opposite, the total elimination of property to be found as the ultimate goal of Communism.

If the core definition of "nationalism" or the "counter revolution" or "racialism" is rejection of universalist egalitarianism in the name of group survival, however defined, then the concomitant economics of nationalism must acknowledge the obligations of members of the group towards each other.

However, this sense of group obligation seems only to produce a functioning successful, non - cynical society when the motivation for the communal concern is the root identity of the group. "I care about my family and I care about my family writ large, my nation, my ethnicity, my race, my co religionists and the like." It seems to degrade into corruption and cynicism when the motivation is that of a fictional identity such as the empty class warfare of communism or the boring and cliché ridden state socialism of contemporary England. Thus, although all forms of nationalist economics would probably accept the assorted safety nets of unemployment, sickness and old age pensions of the modern, soft-socialist, welfare state it would do so with a true sense of brotherly love, national - racial unity and hard working compassion.

There have been many junctures in history when a robust sense of real community has combined with a radical desire to provide for a community based economics. We will mention some interesting samples of this genre.

In America this trend is often referred to as populism and is routinely condemned by the powers-that-be for being xenophobic. Enthusiasms of this sort may be found in recent American history in the anti-Wall Street campaigns of the southern, fundamentalist and three time candidate for president on the Democratic ticket, William Jennings Bryan. It later appeared in the 1936 Union Party run of William Lemke for president with the backing of Dr. Francis Townsend, Father Charles Coughlin, and the publisher of the *Cross and the Flag* journal, Gerald L. K. Smith.

In recent decades the presidential runs of Alabama Governor George Wallace for the Democratic nomination and later as the American Party candidate drew upon this same combination of tradition, religion, culture, race and radical economics.

What often clouds the viewpoints of Americans and increasingly Europeans on this matter is the fact that a) the current welfare state socialism is devoid of identity and memory and b) it is often simply a means to move money and property from European peoples to those of other races and cultures. Thus, it is incapable of being a true communal economic vision because its beneficiaries don't see themselves as part of the same larger family as the coerced donors, the taxpayers.

Of course, it is unlikely that the corporate staters, monarchists

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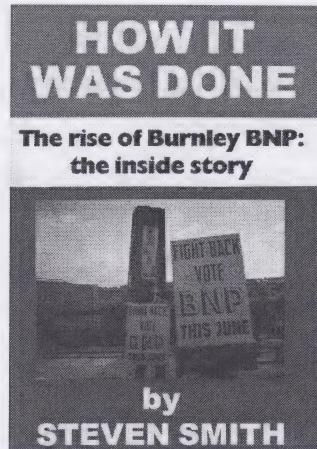
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or old time conservatives, who favored landed aristocracy and inherited wealth as stabilizing counter revolutionary forces, would see much to praise in the populist efforts just outlined. The American conservative thinker and self-described "Bohemian Tory," Russell Kirk, author of the generally excellent work on traditionalist conservatism, *The Conservative Mind*, explains his omission of G. K. Chesterton and Hilaire Belloc from his *magnum opus* as due to their radical economics of distributism.

A glance at the European scene gives us many examples of radical nationalist economics often in very creative venues and at times even pressing the envelope as far as left-right divides are concerned. Perhaps, the strangest of these efforts of late has been the theories of National Bolshevism associated with the likes of Alexander Dugin in Russia and studied with usual analytic rigor in the ranks of the French New Right.

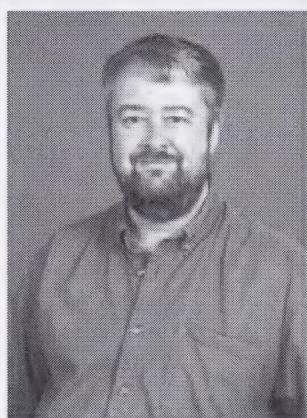
Reaching further back into history it was to a large extent the failure of Hitler to begin what his leftist-nationalist critics advocated as the "Second Revolution," which led to the Night of the Long Knives against the SA, the Strasser brothers and others. To Hitler the movement he led was primarily about nation, folk and race and if there was a need to compromise with capitalism along the way then so be it. His NS critics saw this as a betrayal of the true sense of *volkisch* community.

In Ulster in the early part of twentieth century we encounter a movement that stressed both Loyalist politics, Protestant faith and radical economics. It was led by T. H. Sloan, a Belfast shipyard worker who defeated the official Unionist candidate in a by-election. Sloan's radicalism – he proclaimed that he stood for "Presbyterianism, temperance and trade unionism," led to his expulsion from the Orange Order. He went on to found the Independent Orange Order which was seen as an "uprising of Belfast working men."

In a similar vein but vastly different milieu it was Georges Valois, who both before and after the WWI, tried to create a working alliance between the royalist, Catholic Action Française and the syndicalists and other working class interests. Under his guidance the AF created

the Confederation of French Intelligence and Production devoted to the task of bringing the workers of the nation and the soul of the nation together in a counter revolutionary sense of community.

It was in this spirit that the Falange and Carlists united in support of Franco in the Spanish Civil War. The agenda of the former was one of radical economic nationalism and the latter of the preservation of faith, tradition and local loyalties. Yet, they set aside their differences to rid their land, if but for a few decades, of the Communist-democratic alliance.



Hounslow Councillor Phil Andrews, a former NF official, has put radical populism into practice

For those interested in following the permutations of radical nationalists throughout the years it is perhaps worth casting a look at the career, in both theory and political alliances, of Francis Parker Yockey who clearly saw that a resurrection of European spirit would have to address the questions of economic exploitation and poverty. One need not subscribe to all of Yockey's often dense writing and his veneration of Hitler to realize that he saw early on that which others took much time to realize.

At present, all the above reflections must remain just that – reflections. Those concerned with the survival of Europe's faiths, races, peoples and cultures are excluded from power in their ancestral homelands. The debate is nonetheless a worthwhile one as it will help to clarify the essence of European spirit and how it is best to be implemented in the practical world of money and economics.

And, we may all agree that, in the meantime, part of what nationalists should be doing is to perform acts of community building in their local communities. This will demonstrate to one and all that they are not simply "talking the talk." Codreanau demanded this of his Legionaries in the thirties and did much good as well as garnering community support for his movement. In the eighties the "radical" faction of the NF began to explore and put into practice the advocacy and practice of local kindness and concerns. This is best remembered by those who recall those years when thinking of the efforts of Phil Andrews and Brent Cheetham (who both

later were elected as local councillors).

And, it is possible that political power in the classical sense is becoming increasingly irrelevant. No one seems to care much what the governing elites in Parliament or Congress have to say any longer. The bully boys of the EU are clearly serving the interests of various power elites that have nothing to do with the racial, religious, cultural or economic needs of the vast majority of citizens. Thus, the politics and economics of the locality are all that can and, perhaps, should be pursued as a priority today.

I have attempted in this essay to remain an ecumenical nationalist. We have taken no stand on the issue of Christianity or on the political forms of folk resurrection. We have granted that, provided the community is addressed and the bonds of kinship of folk brotherhood are maintained, there may be assorted legitimate economic forms. Yet, here at the conclusion, the writer wishes to step out of the roll of moderator for a parting moment. In my own view, the corporate state may have had its time and an authoritarian hand may be needed to restore order in the future. However, at the end of the day, I feel that the radicals have it right. The Distributists and Social Credit folks realized a simple truth, that a healthy nation or community must provide its people with the respect of seeing their loved ones provided with dignity, property and productive work. Thus, at some point, the rebirth of Europe will have to involve a significant re-ordering of imbalanced economic structures, giving way to compassion and respect for all our peoples.

Peter Anderson, Trenton, New Jersey



Father Charles Coughlin, the most successful promoter of a radical nationalist challenge to Wall Street conservatism

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Book Review: *The Holy Reich - Nazi Conceptions of Christianity* by Richard Steigmann-Gall

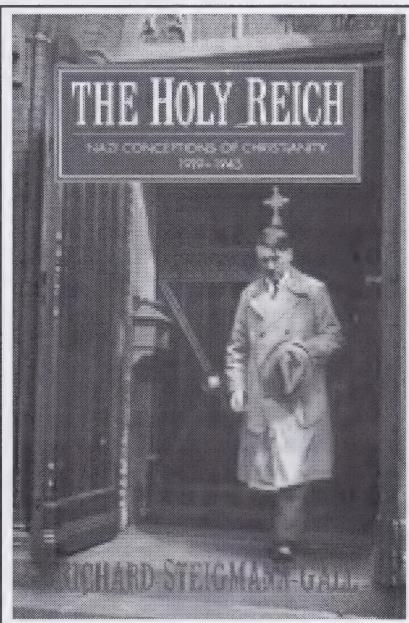
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A popular belief is that National Socialism was the polar opposite of Christianity: in Germany, the NSDAP planned to eliminate Christian churches while devout Christians opposed the NS agenda. Is this perception accurate? No it is not. Some NS were anti-Christian and some Christians were anti-Nazi, but the majority were equally at home in both camps.

Traditional evaluation of Christian complicity in the 'Holocaust' and other 'Nazi crimes' focuses on the degree to which Christians allowed themselves to be used for NS purposes, but this presupposes a distinction between national socialists and Christians which did not entirely exist. Many Christians actively supported the NSDAP agenda. Many national socialists were not only devout Christians, but also believed that NS philosophy was animated by Christian doctrine.

The Christianity promoted by the NSDAP was labeled "positive Christianity," a perspective that focused on the relationship between Christian promises of salvation and the German *Volk* as a special race of people. Point 24 of the NS Program, created in 1920 and never rescinded, reads:

We demand freedom for all religious confessions in the state, insofar as they do not endanger its existence or conflict with the customs and moral sentiments of the Germanic race. The party as such represents the standpoint of a positive Christianity, without owing itself to a particular confession. It fights the spirit of Jewish materialism within us and without us, and is convinced that a lasting recovery of our Volk can only take place from within, on the basis of the principle: public need comes before private greed.



Catholic priests and bishops salute at a 1933 Berlin rally

So how is all of this possible? How can the reality of the relationship between the NSDAP and Christianity be so far removed from popular perception? The truth about all this is detailed in Richard Steigmann-Gall's book *The Holy Reich: Nazi Conceptions of Christianity, 1919-1945*.

Some Christians avert their faces from the true relationship between their religion and national socialism in part because the truth is difficult to bear, but also in part because they simply don't understand what Christianity was like in Germany at the time.

Positive Christians may have said little or nothing about the

Augsburg Confession or other signifiers of theological orthodoxy, but they nonetheless regarded Christian social theories — "practical Christianity" as it was also known — as a linchpin of their worldview. Although generally unconcerned with dogma, many of these national socialists nonetheless adhered to basic precepts of Christian doctrine — most importantly the divinity of Christ as the son of God. Although they clearly departed from conventional theology in their rejection of the Old Testament and insistence on Christ's Aryanhood, they were not simply distorting Christianity for their own ends or engaging in idiosyncratic religious meandering.

Only by ignoring the intellectual precedents for these ideas can we argue that positive Christianity was an "infection" of an otherwise pristine faith. Rather these ideas found expression among bona fide voices of *Kulturprotestantismus* before the NSDAP ever existed.

Although many Christians today may find it implausible that religion as they practice it could have anything in common with national socialism, they need to recognize that Christianity - including their own - is always conditioned by the culture where one finds it. For Germans at the beginning of the 20th century, this meant that Christianity was often profoundly anti-semitic and nationalistic. This was the same ground which the NS found so fertile for their own ideology - it would have been amazing had the two systems not found a great deal in common and been unable to find a way to work together.

Germany after World War I was regarded as a godless, secular, materialistic republic which had betrayed all of Germany's traditional morals, values, and religious beliefs. An important aspect of the national socialist appeal to the great mass of religiously conservative Germans was the fact that they said all the right things about the evils of atheism, materialism, greed, corruption, law and order, communism, and religious values.

Alongside the Christian national socialists were a number of anti-Christian NS who sought to create a new, neo-pagan religion for the German people. These were, however, relatively few in number and their views were never officially endorsed by the Party or by Hitler. Slightly more common were anti-clerical NS who continued to accept basic theistic and Christian doctrines, but who repudiated churches and priests. This seems to have been a view gradually adopted by Hitler himself.



Ludwig Muller was appointed Reich Bishop in 1933 and led the German Christian movement, which cemented the loyalty of millions of German Protestants

Isn't it true, though, that Hitler sought to eliminate churches and Christianity from Germany? It's been said that Hitler only spoke positively about Christianity in public because he had to in order to maintain support from the German people; in private, he admitted to his true hatred of all things Christian. This view is based upon allegedly private comments recorded in the book *Hitler Speaks*, but Steigmann-Gall argues that the balance of evidence - including Hitler's early upbringing in the Catholic Church - indicates that these statements are probably forgeries and are regarded as such by many scholars.

The conspiratorial tone of this account of the "private" Hitler has convinced many church historians that Hitler was "a wolf in sheep's clothing," anti-Christian to the core and from the outset of his career. The caricature Rauschning presents of Hitler's ranting should alone have raised questions as to its authenticity; but the more troubling fact remains that Rauschning's book stands completely alone in handing down sayings of this nature from this period.



Alfred Rosenberg, one of the leading national socialist opponents of Christian influence, is greeted by a Ukrainian delegation after taking control of the Reich's eastern territories

It is not for nothing that these factors should raise questions: *Hitler Speaks* is now considered to be fraudulent. As a recent biographer has put it, "Especially the chapter 'Hitler in private' ...is untrustworthy through and through — a product of war propaganda... [Rauschning's] 'conversations with Hitler' are far-off fantasies." Moreover...Rauschning was too peripheral to the movement to have been part of Hitler's inner circle of confidants, as he consistently maintained.

Sometimes people use passages from *Hitler's Table Talks* to argue that Hitler was really anti-Christian, but even if the authenticity of this entire collection of reminiscences is acknowledged, there is far more ambiguity and pro-Christian commentary than is usually acknowledged. It would be surprising if Hitler had never said anything critical of churches, priests, and Christianity and so the existence of some negative quotes is expected. What matters most is the overall balance of his commentary - and that is indisputably pro-Christian and pro-religion.

The deliberate promotion of pagan beliefs was a minority within the NSDAP. Alfred Rosenberg favored the creation of a new religion, but Hitler went so far as to threaten to take action against his book *Mythos*, and it was banned by some lower-ranking party organizations. Himmler was obsessed with ancient Germans, but Hitler dismissed this as ridiculous - and even Himmler insisted that



Two NS Christians: (left) Vice-Chancellor Franz von Papen attends the signing of the Concordat by Pope Pius XII; (right) Reich Bishop Muller marries Hermann Goering and opera star Emmy Sonnemann, with Adolf Hitler as best man

Christian viewpoints be respected within the SS. At times he admitted that he was less anti-Christian than anti-clerical.

One important point about all this which may be missed is the fact that these and other pagan national socialists never pretended to be anything else - they never affected a pro-Christian stance in public in order to win over the approval of the German people. When national socialists were pagan, it appears that they were unabashedly and enthusiastically pagan, without apology.

This makes it difficult to argue that other leading national socialists, like Goebbels, Goering, and even Hitler himself, only pretended to be pro-Christian for the sake of public relations. If they had wanted to endorse a new paganism in Germany, they had ample opportunity. Instead, what we have are a few national socialists publicly endorsing paganism, but most NS publicly endorsing Christianity and all official party organs endorsing Christianity, right up to the official party platform.

If you are a Christian or a national socialist - or both - you should find this book of interest. Although published by Cambridge University Press, it's not really an academic work, but it's still well worth reading. It's a bit on the pricey side - aren't all University books! - so look out for a second hand copy if you are counting the coppers!

Reviewed by Frank Monroe, Ipswich, Suffolk

Letters From Readers



Sir - The message of the Bishop of Dover, Stephen Venner about 'fighting racism' is typical of the inane and infantile pronouncements of those men of the cloth who wear their collars back to front and call themselves 'Reverend'. Now we have the Bishop of Blackburn, Nicholas Reade telling his clergy to preach against the BNP and oppose any party that "offers racist policies". These same clerics have all but emptied the churches with considerably less than five percent of the British going to church. Like their collars they have got everything back to front and inside out.

If one bothers to do just a little research in books like *Ancient Pagan and Modern Christian Symbolism Explained* by Thomas Inman and *The Two Babylons* by Bishop Alexander Hislop one will soon discover that the religion of the Church of England is more pagan than Christian. Its signs and symbols, festivals and all its cant and humbug owes more to ancient Baal worship than the religion of Jesus Christ. Just consult the *Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics* and *The Golden Bough* by Frazer.

If you read the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John you will very soon discover that the most violent and vociferous opponents of Jesus Christ and his message were not the common people but the religionists of his day. Short of swearing, Christ called these religionists everything, i.e. hypocrites, white washed sepulchres (clean on the outside and rotten within), vipers and snakes. He warned us to beware of "wolves in sheep's clothing".

I have spent fifty years studying the *Bible* and used to teach R.E. in State schools when it meant Christian teaching, not today's multi-faith nonsense and social mishmash. Let me assure you, the *Bible* nowhere teaches the amalgamation of races. On the contrary, it teaches that in the beginning God separated the races by great geographical barriers, deserts, oceans and mountain ranges. He warned Israel anciently that if they mixed with other nations they would become "snares and traps unto you, and scourges in your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until you perish off this good land." (Joshua 23, 12-13) With the fulfilment of the *Bible* prediction "Many shall run to and fro and knowledge shall be increased" or as another translation has it "Travel and education shall be greatly increased," (Daniel 12.4) the races are now being mixed up on a massive scale. Just visit any large airport sometime. Or walk through London, Birmingham or any other 'English city'.

Thus the *Bible* condemns the modern doctrine of Multiracialism and Multiculturalism stating that it results in violence and friction and, ultimately, death for the host nation. Who can deny the truth of this? The Biblical 'Israel' is not the Jews. Read *Facts are Facts* by Ben Freedman and *The Thirteenth Tribe* by Arthur Koestler. The Israel of the *Bible* are Anglo-Saxons and related peoples.

The programme to mix up the races comes straight out of Illuminism/Satanism. For proof read books by Commander William Guy Carr - a life long student of the Illuminati and also my booklet *The Banking Taxation Racket Exposed: How you have been deceived* - which is available free of charge from the address below.

Yours sincerely,
R. D. Porter, Needham Market, Suffolk



Sir - I just wanted to, as a southern Irishman, say congratulations on your electoral successes and also to express my delight at seeing your policy regarding the situation on this island, north and south. Its also refreshing to see a party on the mainland actively seeking to transform the Union into something more progressive that will be able to stand up to the tests that it has today. I'd also like to take the opportunity to say there are plenty of southern Irish men and women, of both RC and Protestant backgrounds, that support your idea for the future of these two islands. Keep up the good work with *Heritage and Destiny* - it's a great magazine, but how about some articles/reviews of Gaelic/Celtic music as well as Ulster-Scots and Links and Lamb (which by the way I enjoy too).

All the best,
Marcus Sherwood, Wexford, Eire,



Sir - You report Don Black saying Rabbi Schiller once told him at the *American Renaissance* Conference: "Most Jews hate White Western Civilisation." I ask in all seriousness, how can this opinion be accurate? Surely Jews vote with their feet in favour of living under the great Western culture. Does not their very presence here in such numbers demonstrate clearly that they think our culture superior to that of their own, as seen in Israel. Why else would they stay in the West?

Any Jew who really hates our Western culture has the solution in their own hands. All they need to do is move to Israel and live under Israel's law of return - all Jews are entitled to citizenship, and can get an Israeli passport - but most Jews won't go to Israel. They know which side of their bread is buttered on. Life in Israel would be very hard by comparison with life in the West.

I think that some Jews feel they must express hatred for our White Western civilisation out of a sense of guilt. They have been programmed from their earliest days into the view that the highest manifestation of morality is for a Jew to make his very own personal *aliyah* to Israel, to live there, and support the dream of having their own land. But life in the West is so attractive by comparison with life in Israel, so they don't want to go, and this makes them feel 'Oh-so-terribly guilty'. So some Jews try to compensate for their guilty feelings by being very active supporters of Zionism.

Yours for Race and Nation,
Harry Mullin, Glasgow (formerly of Belfast!)



Sir - How right are those who point out that democracy as we know it is a hoax. In Britain there is a committee of twelve to fourteen unelected men known as "The Crown" who rule "The City" which is a privately owned Corporation (Sovereign State) occupying 677 acres in the heart of the 510 square mile Greater London area. This small clique, who may not be British Citizens, dictate to our elected British Parliament. It tells them what to do and when, as demonstrated with the Suez Canal War and now the illegal Afghan/Iraq War.

"The City" has its own Lord Mayor and here are grouped wealthy banks dominated by the privately owned (Rothschild controlled) Bank of "England", London Stock Exchange, Lloyd's of London and the offices of most of the leading international trading concerns.

Theoretically, Britain is ruled by a Prime Minister, and a Cabinet of close advisors, vetted by an elected Parliament. The 'fronts' go to a great lengths to create the impression that they are running our country, in reality, they are mere puppets whose strings are pulled by shadowy characters who dominate behind the scenes.

Yours faithfully,
E. Walter Carr, Malvern, Worcestershire



Sir - Your publication is excellent. For years I have been hoping that some people will get a non-party political publication on its feet similar to *Heritage and Destiny* and a non political movement. The publication is here - perhaps a movement equivalent of *H&D* will emerge in the years to come. The coverage of the *American Renaissance* conference by Alan Donaldson in your latest issue was very illuminating (by the nature of things the persons who organize such events can

themselves hardly report on them objectively) - my only carp (which I have voiced once before in these letters pages) is that in my opinion, comments are still overinclined to the gossip and personal disputes at the expense of the issues. For example, Alan Donaldson summarised the speeches of Derrick Turner and Guillaume Faye extremely briefly in one or two lines; he wrote considerably more about Nick Griffin's integrity. While I appreciate this sort of gossiping is fun to read, it does give a 'Searchlight' like character to the writing and shouldn't mean that debate about the crucial issues falls short. For example, what was Guillaume Faye's reaction to Duke's probing?

Yours appreciatively

Michael Walker, Cologne, Germany

Editors Note: Having attended three AR conferences myself I too wished that Mr Donaldson had given more space to what the speakers had to say, especially Right NOW! editor Derrick Turner, with whom many of our readers are familiar. However at the end of the day we can only publish what the authors send in.



Sir - If you think you have it bad back in the Old Country, you should see what the Stupid Party (Republican Party Ed) are now doing Stateside. I recently attended a briefing at the National Press Club, in Washington DC that revealed yet another political horror!

For example, I discovered that virtually all women in the World who can show that they risk bad treatment from other individuals in their own culture because of their gender would now be eligible to move to America!

Most of us are aware — and disturbed — that millions of women in third world cultures around the world are mistreated. But no rational person could think the solution is to remove them from their countries and transport them to the U.S.A. Rather, the solution has to be in transformation of their own cultures.

The Senate is now completely insane over immigration to our once mono-racial country. Fortunately, thousands of rational American citizens are waking up at long last to the threat posed by mass third world immigration and are staging rallies and meetings to expose the Senate going "completely insane" — and to fight tooth and nail to stop its new immigration bill.

Keep up the battle against third world immigration in Olde Blighty, you are doing a grand job with Heritage and Destiny.

Yours for the cause,

Linda McDowell, Baltimore, Maryland



Sir - No doubt the BNP leadership are feeling justified in their decision not to stand in the Bromley and Chislehurst by-election after seeing the pitiful vote received by the National Front (1.6%). As told to me, the decision not to stand was based, principally, on two facts: the establishment parties were going to put large resources into the by-election and the relatively small BNP effort would be swamped, and that it was a Tory seat.

In my opinion, this is a defeatist attitude that shows the enormous weakness of the BNP as it is currently run. The BNP is only doing well in areas with an 'immigrant' problem and a left wing Labour Council that promotes the 'immigrants' in favour of the English. The BNP does not appear to have much electoral support outside these areas and little support outside England.

The current BNP leadership are not making any appeal to the normal UK voter and, as the Bromley by-election shows, are frightened of doing battle in normal conditions. In my view, a 'national party', if it is to mean anything, must have policies that appeal to all within the UK, that is, old and young, rich and poor, north and south, Scots, Welsh, English and Irish.

In my view the major task of a party, such as the BNP, is to teach the allegedly dopey electorate what it stands for, and why this is of benefit to them. Before this, of course, the BNP need to agree a coherent, firm and stable set of fundamental principles. A national party cannot afford to

write off large chunks of the UK electorate just because they appear dopey or apathetic. In a democracy, and the BNP is a party working in a democracy, each person's vote is equal. This basic fact must never be forgotten. A by-election not fought is an opportunity lost.

Yours faithfully,

Michael Easter, Tonbridge, England

Editors Note: Mr. Easter makes some good points, however the real reason why Griffin did not stand a candidate in Bromley was that he was scared (wrongly in my opinion) that the UKIP would beat them. If the BNP leadership had the guts to stand against UKIP they could have easily beaten them and confined UKIP to the political dustbin. But instead they have given UKIP another lifeline. As to the BNP being a 'national party', it is so in name only. It has very little support in Wales and Scotland and is not even registered in Northern Ireland. The BNP is in the strange position of being a 99% English party, with a chairman - Nick Griffin - who lives in Wales, a Scots vice chairman - Scott McLean - and an Ethnic Liaison officer - Rajinder Singh - from India!



Sir - As Worcestershire organiser for the BNP I ran three election campaigns for the party on May 4th, 2006. One in Redditch, where we came in first and two in Worcester, where we came second and third. In Redditch an ex-SAS man David Enderby was elected onto Redditch Borough Council. There is no racial tension in Redditch, we beat them fair and square. I ran a better campaign. The Labour candidate had been there in Redditch for 37 years. Just imagine the embarrassment of the establishment having an ex-SAS man as Councillor - they hated it.

The press gave us front page news in both local papers with good stories - they hated it. They know we will do even better next time. This is why I was jailed on trumped up charges.

Kindest regards,

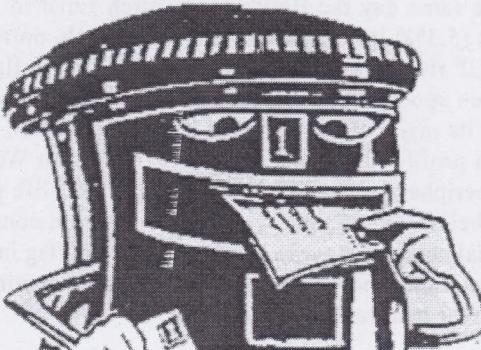
Kevin Hughes XB4290, HMP Featherstone, New Road, Featherstone, Wolverhampton, WV10 7PU

Editors Note: Kevin Hughes was the BNP's Worcestershire organiser until he was jailed in May for two-and-a-half years in an outrageous miscarriage of justice. Just days after helping get ex-SAS man David Enderby elected to Redditch Borough council, Kevin faced a trumped-up charge of "racially aggravated assault". The case arose when an Iraqi asylum-seeker was offending customers in Kevin's local pub. Kevin asked the man where he came from, whereupon the asylum-seeker complained to the police.

His allegation that Kevin had assaulted him was made without a shred of evidence. Neither man had so much as a mark on his body and the asylum-seeker was shown to be lying in court. The prosecution broke their undertaking not to mention Kevin's involvement with the BNP, and the jury chose to take the word of the Iraqi rather than their fellow countryman.

A request for an adjournment for a pre-sentencing report was dismissed out of hand, despite the fact that Kevin has a business to run and had no previous convictions. The judge even accepted that there had been no physical assault, but went on to say that society couldn't have people going around verbally abusing asylum-seekers. He then sentenced Kevin to a horrific two-and-a-half years in prison.

The real reason Kevin is in prison is because he is a nationalist activist and a successful one at that. And that is why all H&D readers should send him a card or letter of support to the address above and please remember to enclose a SAE.



Movement News Update

BNP successes in several areas at the May elections created a heightened media interest in the party, and possibly unrealistic expectations among members of further by-election victories over the summer. This over-optimism was quickly punctured.

An unusual by-election in **Scarborough**'s Stepney ward on May 11th saw the BNP finish fifth out of six candidates with 154 votes (12.5%). The main effect of this decent BNP showing was to help the Green Party gain the ward from the Conservatives in a ward where Labour had previously been the main challengers. A very bad result for the two major parties.

On May 18th in the Tangmere ward of **Chichester** district council the BNP entered unpromising territory, in a ward which was closely fought between the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats, and predictably polled just 41 votes (6.5%), which was still enough to beat the UKIP and Labour candidates.

On June 8th the Brus ward of **Hartlepool** went to the polls in a contest delayed from May 4th because of a candidate's death. The BNP took 245 votes in this ward in 2004, and this year BNP candidate Roy Gibson finished fourth out of five candidates with 117 votes (13.5%).

The BNP fought its first ever **Lancaster** by-election in the Skerton West ward on June 22nd, where Christopher Hill took 220 votes (15.9%) and finished bottom of the poll. One of the most interesting features of the by-election was that the far left and Greens, who took a fifth of the vote between them when the ward was last contested, stood aside this time, helping Labour to increase its majority - clearly because they feared a much stronger BNP challenge.

Opposition fears would have been heightened by the fact that Skerton is very near to the Heysham South ward, where Paul Bamford finished third out of six candidates with 13.8% for the then unknown England First Party at the party's first ever electoral contest in February 2004.

On the same day the BNP's Liam Birch finished fourth with 200 votes (5.3%) in Southway ward, **Plymouth**, narrowly ahead of his UKIP rival who took 139 votes (3.7%) in the fight to avoid the wooden spoon. The Plymouth result - which allowed Labour to regain its majority on the local council - showed that for all their high profile on the party website, the South West BNP remains a peripheral presence in the region's real-life politics. No fault of theirs, though, and we should value the contribution of those racial nationalists who continue to fly the flag in electorally hopeless circumstances - not least because they continue to highlight the near bankruptcy of the UKIP.

June 29th saw the BNP attempt to capitalise on their Barking & Dagenham victories when they contested four by-elections on the same day. The most interesting were in the borough of **Tameside**, adjacent to the BNP's former target area of Oldham. The party began to poll well in Tameside as early as 2001, entirely due to its proximity to Oldham, and that year's general election candidate Roger Wood took almost 5% in Ashton-under-Lyne despite being a paper candidate who didn't even have a presence at the election count.

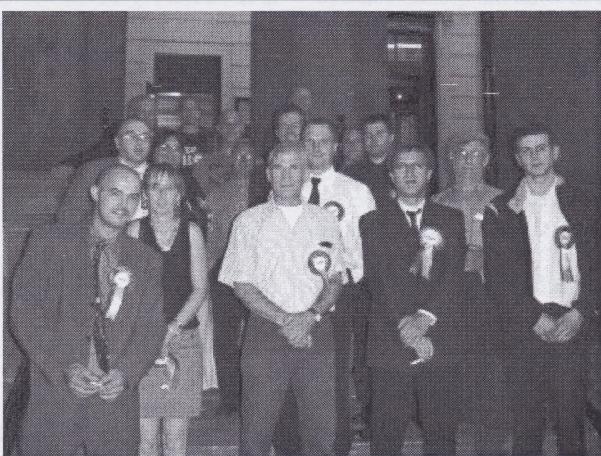
Former UDA member Dave Jones contested Denton South on June 29th, having fought the same ward back in 2004, when in an all-postal election he gained 612 votes but finished bottom of the poll. This time he finished third with 316 votes (18.3%). In nearby Stalybridge North the BNP's stagnation in the region was confirmed when Paul Hindley took 283 votes (16.7%). Two years ago in the slightly less favourable Stalybridge South, Nigel Byrne won 573 votes. Tameside BNP is obviously one of the best branches in the North West but if it can't come closer to winning by-elections, even with a vigorous campaign including distribution of a DVD to every voter, and even on the back of huge nationwide publicity for the party, one wonders when and where will be its first victory? The BNP website makes a great deal of supposed Tameside BNP success after the branch was "relaunched" at the start of 2006. Readers are entitled to ask: why did a branch that won good election results in 2003, 2004 and 2005 have to be "relaunched" in 2006?

(Speculation is rife that Bev Jones, Dave's wife, is about to be brought back as North West regional organiser after the likely

sacking of Roy Goodwin, who will be a scapegoat for the region's poor election performances in 2006. This may explain the relentless promotion of Tameside and **Stockport**, run by Bev's close ally Richard Chadfield, on the party website.)

Elsewhere on June 29th the BNP broke new ground in **Lincoln**, taking 254 votes (15.8%) in the Moorland by-election compared to a pathetic UKIP vote of 46 (2.9%), and in the Shobnall ward of Burton-on-Trent in **East Staffordshire**, where the effect of recent Stoke victories helped Clive Jones to 291 votes (20.6%) in a safe Labour seat which has a large Asian minority. Mr Jones and his team showed that there is potential for racial nationalism in every area that has racial problems - and that includes many outside the most obvious racial hotspots.

One election on June 29th which the BNP pragmatically avoided was the **Bromley & Chislehurst** parliamentary by-election. It was obvious from the start that the UKIP would put a big effort in here, and finishing well behind UKIP after trouncing them in so many local con-



BNP by-election teams: (above) Tameside activists attending the count for Denton South (18.3%) and Stalybridge North (16.7%); (below) the Lincoln BNP election team fighting their first by-election in Moorland ward, where they gained 15.8%



tests would, it was feared, have been bad for BNP morale. The National Front bravely represented the racial nationalist cause and in the circumstances NF candidate Paul Winnett will be just about satisfied with his 476 votes (1.6%), more than double the percentage won by Mick Stoneman for the NF in this constituency at the 1997 general election. Steven Uncles of the English Democrats finished further down the field with only 212 votes (0.7%). The UKIP candidate was MEP Nigel Farage, and since this was his party's biggest campaign for some time he would have expected more than his 2,347 votes (8.1%). Even though he had the satisfaction of pushing Labour into fourth place, Farage was after all working from a base of 1,475 votes won by the UKIP at the last general election, when they were up against the late MP and noted Tory eurosceptic Eric Forth.

On July 6th there was another North West BNP failure as they failed to contest the Castlefields by-election for **Halton** council in Cheshire, where they won 232 votes in 2004. The Lib Dems took advantage with a 13.3% swing from Labour to finish a close second. On the same day the BNP's UKIP rivals broke new ground in **Boston**, Lincolnshire, taking 16.6% in the Fishtoft by-election.

The last by-elections before we went to press were on July 13th. In Bridge ward, **Redbridge**, Danny Warville shocked local Tories by finishing a close second with 857 votes (33.5%) in a ward which the BNP hadn't contested in May. This was the best recent BNP by-election performance, and reflects the party's continuing honeymoon with white voters in parts of outer east London.

By contrast the BNP's Michael Clarke finished bottom of the poll in Hucknall West, **Ashfield**, with 331 votes (15.9%) even though no Conservative fought the seat. A definite setback for the East Midlands BNP.

Away from the crowded by-election scene most of the movement's attention has been on **Birmingham**, where a protracted court case is close to resolving the fate of Sharon Ebanks, the controversial BNP councillor elected for Kingstanding ward on May 4th. After declaring Miss Ebanks elected and sending all the party activists home, the returning officer discovered what she felt to have been an obvious error. It appeared that a basic clerical mistake had robbed one of Labour's two candidates of victory by counting the majority of the BNP's votes twice, and that on a correct count Labour would have won both available Kingstanding seats. US readers will be familiar with this type of farce, but should bear in mind that only 4,981 people voted in Kingstanding, so the authorities had absolutely no excuse for their failure.

Instead of 2,310 votes, it appears that Miss Ebanks should have received 1,329 votes, leaving her about 500 votes behind Labour rather than, as appeared at the declaration, top of the poll by over 200. One assumes that Labour's Birmingham agent has been dismissed for failing to spot the discrepancy. Needless to say, the court has failed to take account of a host of frauds and irregularities, sadly typical of Birmingham, which benefited the Labour Party in Kingstanding and other wards.

Judge Robert Taylor at the Royal Courts of Justice has ordered a recount to go ahead at the end of July, which will almost inevitably award the seat to Labour. During the last few weeks Cllr Ebanks has been subjected to a tirade of press abuse, including the allegation that her natural father was Jamaican. While the truth behind this allegation remains unclear, racial nationalists should stand by Cllr Ebanks.

Similar stories were published by the *Lancashire Evening Telegraph* immediately after the election, which distorted comments by the mother of the EFP's Cllr Michael Johnson in an effort to portray Cllr Johnson as of partly African descent. The truth is that Cllr Johnson's grandfather was Portuguese. Any one with an ounce of common sense could have worked out that since Cllr Johnson is 47 there would not have been any African Negroes in a small Lancashire mill town like Darwen back in his grandfather's time. But the *Telegraph's* motto is never to let the facts get in the way of a good story.

Sadly some apologists for Nick Griffin operated on the same principles, even while they remained silent about Cllr Ebanks. The likes of Gareth Hurley, one of the three men and a dog who run the Welsh-based "English" branch of the International Third Position, need to explain why it is fine for them to operate as a tiny part of an organisation based substantially in southern Europe (including as it happens Portugal) but it is forbidden in their books for an EFP councillor to have a Portuguese grandparent.

Mr Hurley might also like to comment on the actions of his paymaster Roberto Fiore, whose Italian political party Forza Nuova fought the recent Italian general election as part

of a conservative coalition led by Silvio Berlusconi, the shady billionaire and close friend of Tony and Cherie Blair. There may be strong arguments in favour of this weird alliance, which gained FN and two other racial nationalist parties a combined nationwide vote of 0.7%, but we have yet to hear them from Mr Hurley. Meanwhile Cllr Johnson would like to point out that he was 100% behind England in their recent World Cup match against Portugal, and he commiserates with Mr Hurley on the latest Welsh failure to qualify for the tournament!

On June 30th BNP chairman Nick Griffin and his associate Mark Collett were back in Leeds Crown Court for pre-trial hearings in their Race Act retrial. Most readers will know that Messrs Griffin and Collett were acquitted on a number of Race Act charges earlier this year but the jury failed to reach a verdict on several further charges. The full retrial is expected in the autumn.

Other recent court news has been all bad. BNP brothers Chris and Barry Roberts lost their libel action against *Searchlight* magazine, following the similar libel defeat suffered by Barry's Lewisham BNP colleague Tess Culnane last year. Burnley BNP councillor Brian Turner narrowly avoided a jail sentence for a "racially aggravated public order offence". Bournemouth BNP member Terry Collins has started a five year jail sentence for a campaign of arson and criminal damage. Nationalist veteran Allen Boyce received a suspended sentence for supplying Mr Collins with bomb recipes.

Peter Rushmore, Manchester, England



Nationalists in the news: (above left) Sharon Ebanks, whose election as BNP councillor for Birmingham Kingstanding is likely to be annulled by the courts; (above right) Steven Uncles, peripatetic English Democrat candidate; (below left) Burnley BNP councillor Brian Turner, convicted yet again; (below right) lifelong nationalist Allen Boyce, convicted of supplying bomb recipes to a BNP member





CD Review - *Somme* - The Ulster Scots Folk Orchestra

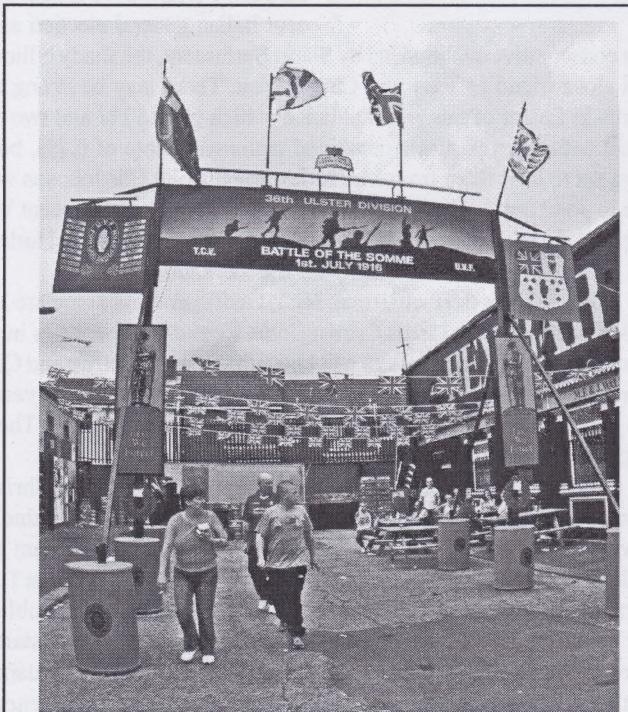
Produced by The Ulster-Scots Folk Orchestra, Available for £12.00 or \$20.00 USA/Canada from Colin Agnew, 14 Woodgrove, Woodtown Road, Ballymena, County Antrim, Northern Ireland, BT43 5JQ or online from www.ulsterscotsfolkorchestra.co.uk

Another excellent CD by the Ulster Scots Folk Orchestra, this one commemorating the 90th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme. All through the CD is the theme 'No more brothers wars' which makes it is a 'must get' for those of us with an interest in our European history and culture, who don't want to see brother killing brother ever again.

Somme has twenty great tracks, starting with #1. **Fare Ye Well Enniskillen**; which starts with the sound of the Enniskillen Dragoons marching off to France, full of hope and singing about their return. Sadly as we now know most did not return to ever see their beloved Ulster again.

#2. **Killaloe**; The sound of bagpipes and drums. #3. **Far Off Fields of Picardy**; The singer says "was it really worth it - for a few miles of ground?" Very powerful, but very upsetting song about the thousands who fell on the first day - for nothing.

#4. **Battle of the Somme**; Another moving song about those brave lads who died at the Somme. #5. **Brian Boru's March**; Musical with fiddles, flutes and even a harp. #6. **Bloody Road to the Somme**; How Carson called for the sons of Ulster to rally around the flag and fight for England against the Kaiser's German army - and how senseless it was.



A commemorative archway in Sandy Row, Belfast, marks the sacrifice of the original UVF at the Somme in 1916

#7. **Young Sons of Erin**; This is my favourite and a very powerful song, in which Ulstermen recognise - maybe for the first time in song - that Irish Catholics stood and died side by side with them. Their sacrifice was just as great, and just as pointless. "Orange and Green for the same cross the same loss". #8. **Stille Nacht**; The famous carol Silent Night that both the British and German troops sung together in the trenches during the Christmas of 1916. First sung in Ulster-Scots and then in German. If there was ever a call for 'no more brothers wars' this was it.

#9. **Garryowen**; A well known tune, very popular with American Ulster-Scots during the Revolutionary War. #10. **Bonnie Woodgreen**; A young Belfast lad from Bonnie Woodgreen joins up to serve his King and finds himself at death's door facing the German foe. #11. **Billy's March**; Lots of flutes and then the Lambeg drum play the popular Ulster tune.

#12. **Thiepval Graveyard**; Sung in English/Ulster-Scots, a song about the brave lads from the villages and towns who fell at the Somme and who were buried there. #13. **Johnny I hardly knew Ye**; Sung to the tune of 'when Johnny comes marching home', a mother sings of the young man she hardly knew before he went off to war, who returned

minus a leg and an arm. She pledges that she will not let it happen again. Sadly it did.

#14. **St. Patrick's Day**; A lovely Irish tune which starts on a harp then goes on to the fiddle. #15. **Young Crozier of Battenbergs Street**; Another song about a young Shankill lad who joins up for all the best reasons only to die at the Somme.

#16. **Willie McBride/Flowers o the Forest**; Another track to bring tears to your eyes. I thought Ian Stuart sang it well, then I heard Lynx and Lamb sing it, and now the Ulster-Scots guys. Just what can you say. #17. **Killiecrankie, Ower the Water**; A few words, lots of fiddles, then the famous Lambeg Drum and finally bagpipes play out this famous Ulster tune.

#18. **Ower the water**; Another very moving song. The war is now over and won, but what about their only son, who never returned like thousands of other Ulster lads. #19. **Where have all the Flowers gone**; Sung by an Ulster lass with a truly beautiful voice - she sings 'where have all the young men gone?' and lastly #20. **Last Post**; A fitting end to the CD, an Ulster bugler plays the Last Post.

Band member Willie Drennan explains; "The 36th Ulster Division alone lost 5,553 men during the first two days of the Battle of the Somme in what was one of the most horrendous events of the First World War. This has had a major effect on the psyche of the people in the small province of Northern Ireland to this day. In 2006, 90 years later, this recording tries to address the enormity and the futility of it all - not just for Northern Ireland, but for everyone, everywhere. All we can do is to examine what happened at the Somme and try to understand it."

Add this excellent CD to your collection and you will not be disappointed

Reviewed by Mark Cotterill, Blackburn, Lancashire